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REVIEW OF NEW BOOKS.

History of the English Revolution; from the Accession of Charles I. Translated from the French of M. Guizot, by Louise H. R. Coutier. 2 vols. 8vo. Oxford, 1838. Talboys.

EVERY person, in the least degree acquainted with the *belles lettres* of France, is aware of the honourable place in her literature to which the name of M. Guizot is justly entitled. A quick perception, a healthy and masculine understanding, and a mind whose powers of ratiocination enable its owner successfully to grapple with almost every subject within the ample range of "fair science and divine philosophy," well fit such an one for executing the work before us: it has, however, additional claims on the attention of Englishmen, in that it is the production of a foreigner. We pass over an erudite and argumentative Preface, in which M. Guizot gives his reasons (valid ones) for writing the book, smiling, as we pass, at the accomplished Frenchman's partiality to the works of his compatriots—"L'Histoire de Cromwell," by M. Villemain; "L'Histoire de la Révolution de 1688," by M. Mazure, &c. It is not within the scope of these remarks to inquire into the secret springs of this or of that revolution, far less to justify or condemn; neither are we prepared to go the length of M. Guizot, and attribute nearly all that is good and great in the civilised world to their operation, for, like a true Frenchman, his *penchant* in this respect is quite evident: we shall merely place before the reader such extracts as may be interesting, either for their novelty or the manner in which they are handled, premising that the author has written with candour, and a strict attention to historical truth. Touching the death of Hampden, we have the following:

"The king heard, without much concern, of the failure of the plot, nearly at the same time he received intelligence that his generals in the north, south, and west, had obtained several victories; and he would much rather obtain his triumph from the cavaliers and open war, than by underhand dealings with the citizens, who had formerly opposed his councils. On the 19th of June, an unexpected event occurred, recalling his thoughts to London and the parliament. A report spread that the day before, in a rencontre of the cavalry, in which Prince Rupert had surprised and beaten the parliamentarians, Hampden had been wounded: 'I saw him,' said a prisoner, 'contrary to his usual custom, ride off the field, before the action was finished, his head hanging down, and his hands leaning on his horse's neck; he is certainly wounded.' The news caused a great sensation in Oxford, though more curiosity than joy was manifested; none could believe that such a man had thus fallen under so unexpected a blow, and they hesitated to rejoice. The king himself, in the hopes of a negotiation, at first only thought of embracing this opportunity of conciliating, if possible, this powerful adversary, who had done him so much harm, but whom he thought capable of repairing every thing. Doctor Giles, a country neighbour of Hampden's, and who had kept up a familiar correspondence with him, was then at Oxford; the king said to him: 'Send and inquire for him, as if on your own

account; if he has no surgeon, say mine are at his service.' 'Sir,' replied the doctor, 'I am little fitted for this business; every time I have requested any thing of Mr. Hampden, I have been to him as a bird of ill omen. I was asking him one day to cause legal proceedings to be instituted against some thieves who had robbed me; and, just as my messenger entered his house, he received intelligence of the death of his eldest son; on another occasion, I was again soliciting his intervention in another affair, when at the same moment a person arrived to announce to him the death of his beloved daughter, Mrs. Knightley. Our intercourse has never been the forerunner of good.' The doctor, however, undertook the king's commission. But when his messenger arrived on the 24th of June, he found Hampden almost lifeless; his shoulder had been fractured by two balls, and, for six days, he had suffered the most excruciating agony. He was, however, told who sent to inquire for him, and with what intention. A great emotion agitated his whole frame; he attempted to speak, but failed, and died a few moments after. As soon as the king was certain of his death, he felt more pleasure than the knowledge of his being inclined to accommodation could have given him; and Hampden was no longer spoken of by the court at Oxford, but to recall his offences, or to remark triumphantly that he was killed in the same county and near the same place where he had first put in action the resolution of parliament concerning the militia, and levied men against the king. On the other hand, in London and throughout the country, the deepest grief was manifested. Never had a man inspired a whole nation with so much confidence; all who belonged to the national party, no matter in what rank, or from what motives, looked up to Hampden for success to their cause; the most moderate entertained a high opinion of his prudence; the most violent, of his patriotism; the most honest, of his uprightness; the most intriguing, of his talents. Prudent and reserved, yet at the same time ready to brave every danger, he had been the cause of no misunderstanding; he still possessed the affection of all, when he was thus suddenly snatched from their hopes. His name was thus fixed for ever on that height where the expectations of his contemporaries had placed it; a circumstance of rare occurrence, and which, perhaps, saved his virtue, as well as his glory, from the shoals on which revolutions often drive and wreck the most noble of their favourites."

The leading facts of the following extract, referring to the execution of Charles the First, are known to most readers: there is a melancholy interest about them, however; enhanced, too, by the minute attention of the author to details which will well repay perusal.

"Several companies of infantry awaited him, forming a double line on each side of his road; a detachment of halberdiers marched on before, with banners flying; the drums beat; not a voice could be heard for the noise. On the right of the king was the bishop; on the left, with his head uncovered, was Colonel Tomlinson, the commander of the guard, whom

Charles, touched by his attentions, had requested not to leave him till his last moment. He talked with him, as they advanced, of his funeral; of the persons to whom he wished the care of it to be intrusted, with a serene air, a beaming eye, a firm step, walking even faster than the troops, and wondering at their slowness. One of the officers on service, probably thinking to confuse him, asked him whether he had not concurred with the late Duke of Buckingham in causing the death of his father: 'My friend,' answered Charles, with gentleness and contempt, 'if I had no other sin than that, I call God to witness that I should not have any need to beg his forgiveness.' When he arrived at Whitehall, he ascended the stairs with a light step, passed through the long gallery, and gained his bedroom, where he was left alone with the bishop, who was preparing to give him the communion. A few independent ministers, Nye and Goodwin among the rest, came and knocked at the door, saying that they wished to offer their services to the king. 'The king is at prayers,' answered Juxon: yet they still insisted. 'Well, then,' said Charles to the bishop, 'thank them in my name for their offer, but tell them frankly that after having so often prayed against me, and without any reason, they shall not pray with me in my agony. They can, if they like, pray for me; for that I shall be grateful.' They retired: the king knelt down, and received the communion from the hands of the bishop, and, rising with vivacity, 'Now,' said he, 'let these rascals come; I have forgiven them from my heart, and I am prepared for all that I have to go through.' His dinner had been prepared; he refused to eat any of it: 'Sir,' said Juxon, 'your majesty has long been fasting; the weather is so cold, perhaps on the scaffold some fainting...' 'You are right,' interrupted the king, and he took a piece of bread and drank a glass of wine. It was then one o'clock: Hacker knocked at the door; Juxon and Herbert fell on their knees: 'Rise, my old friend,' said Charles, holding out his hand to the bishop. Hacker knocked again; Charles ordered the door to be opened: 'Go on,' he said to the colonel, 'I will follow you.' He advanced through the banquetting-hall, still between a double rank of soldiers; a multitude of men and women, who had rushed in at the peril of their lives, stood motionless behind the guard, praying for the king as he passed: the soldiers themselves were silent, and did not insult him. At the further end of the hall an opening had been made in the wall leading immediately to the scaffold, which was entirely covered with black; two men, dressed as sailors, and both wearing visors, stood by the axe. The king arrived, carrying his head erect, and looking on all sides for the people, to speak to them: but, seeing that soldiers only covered the place, and that none could approach, he turned towards Juxon and Tomlinson, and said: 'I cannot be heard by many but yourselves, therefore, to you I will address a few words;' and he delivered to them a short speech which he had prepared, and which was calm and grave to coldness, and merely intended to maintain that he had been right, that contempt of the rights of the sove-

reign was the true cause of the people's misfortunes, that the people ought not to take any part in government, that upon this condition only would the country ever regain peace and its liberties. While he was speaking, some one touched the axe; he turned round hastily, saying, 'Do not spoil the axe, it would hurt me more;' and when he had finished his speech, some one again approaching it, 'Take care of the axe, take care!' he repeated, in a tone of terror. The most profound silence reigned: he put a silk cap upon his head, and, addressing himself to the executioner, said; 'Is my hair in the way?' 'I beg your majesty to push it more under your cap,' replied the man, bowing. The king, with the help of the bishop, pushed his hair aside. As he was doing this, he said: 'I have on my side a good cause, and a merciful God!' 'Yes, sir,' said the bishop, 'there is but one stage more, which, though turbulent and troublesome, is yet a very short one. Consider, it will soon carry you a great way; it will carry you from earth to heaven!' 'I go,' replied the king, 'from a corruptible to an incorruptible crown; where no disturbance can take place!' and, turning towards the executioner, 'Is my hair now right?' he said. He took off his cloak and George, gave the George to Juxon, saying, 'Remember!' he then took off his coat, and put on his cloak again, and looking at the block, he said to the executioner; 'Place it so that it will not shake.' 'It is firm, sir,' replied the man. The king, 'I shall say a short prayer, and when I hold out my hands, then...' He stood in meditation, said a few words to himself, raised his eyes to heaven, knelt down, and laid his head upon the block; the executioner touched his hair to push it still further under his cap; the king thought he was going to strike; 'Wait for the signal,' he said. 'I shall wait for it, sir, with the good pleasure of your majesty.' In about a minute, the king held out his hands; the executioner struck; the head was severed at a blow. 'This is the head of a traitor!' cried he, holding it up to the people: a long deep murmur spread around Whitehall; many persons rushed to the scaffold to dip their handkerchiefs in the king's blood. Two troops of horse, advancing in different directions, slowly dispersed the crowd. When the scaffold was at length clear, the body was taken away: it was already enclosed in the coffin when Cromwell wished to see it; he considered it attentively, and, taking up the head in his hands, as if to make sure that it was severed from the body, 'This,' he said, 'was a well-constituted frame, and promised a long life.' The coffin remained exposed for seven days at Whitehall; an immense concourse of people crowded round the door, but few obtained leave to go in. On the 6th of February, by orders of the Commons, it was delivered to Herbert and Mildmay, with a command to bury him in Windsor castle, in St. George's chapel, in which was the tomb of Henry the Eighth. Thither he was taken, with decency, but without pomp; six horses, covered with black cloth, drew the hearse; four mourning coaches followed, in two of which were the king's last servants, those who had followed him to the Isle of Wight. The next day, the 8th, with the consent of the Commons, the Duke of Richmond, the Marquess of Hertford, the Earls of Southampton and Lindsey, arrived at Windsor to assist at the funeral; they caused to be engraved on the coffin only these words:—

CHARLES, REX.
1648.

* "It was never known to what the king alluded by this word."

When the body was removed from the interior of the castle to the chapel, the weather, which had till then been clear and fine, changed all at once: snow fell in abundance, and covered the black velvet pall; the king's servants thought this sudden whiteness an emblem of their unfortunate master's innocence. When they arrived at the place in which his remains were to be deposited, Bishop Juxon was preparing to read the service of the English Church; but Whitecott, the governor, opposed it: 'The liturgy decreed by both houses,' he said, 'is obligatory for the king as well as for all.' They submitted; no religious ceremony took place: as soon as the coffin was lowered into the vault, all left the chapel, and the governor shut the door. The House of Commons called for an account of the expense of the obsequies, and allowed five hundred pounds to pay for them. On the day of the king's death, before any express had left London, they caused an ordinance to be published, which declared as a traitor, whoever should proclaim in his stead, and as his successor, 'Charles Stuart, his son; commonly called Prince of Wales, or any other person whatsoever.' On the 6th of February, after a long debate, and notwithstanding the opposition of twenty-nine voices against forty-four, the House of Lords was solemnly abolished. Finally, the next day, the 7th, a decree was adopted, bearing—'It has been proved by experience, and this house declares, that the office of king is, in this country, useless, expensive, and dangerous to the liberty, safety, and good, of the people; it is, therefore, from this day, abolished.' A new great seal was engraved, on one side of which was a map of England and Ireland, with the arms of the two countries; and, on the reverse, a representation of the House of Commons sitting, with this inscription: 'The first year of liberty restored by the blessing of God, 1648.'

The elucidations and historical documents with which the work abounds, give it additional value; the style in which it is printed is an honour to the Oxford press.

Elliott's Travels in Austria, Russia, Turkey, &c.
[Second and concluding notice.]

THE empire of Russia has become so immensely overgrown, that it must be an object of jealous observation, not only by the other European states, but those of the East. More favoured provinces might be overrun by hordes of the northern tribes, eager for the plunder of richer lands; and, seduced by the enervating luxuries of finer climates—like the Celts and Cimbri, the Goths and Vandals—they may, from some simultaneous impulse, leave their native territories, and burst in an overwhelming irruption on their weaker neighbours. It is not, indeed, very likely that such movement will take place in the present state of society, but a more serious apprehension is from the autocratic power of the emperor, over a population of upwards of sixty millions, for the most part exceedingly warlike and ferocious, whose stimulus in warfare is the hope of plunder, and whose low scale of civilisation would prevent any mitigation of the unavoidable horrors of a war of conquest. Such a preponderating mass may well appear to threaten a derangement of the balance of power in Europe.

The state of feudal bondage in which the people are kept, deaden all the finer feelings, and render the serfs merely the obedient tools of their tyrannical seigneurs, whose commands must never be disputed; and were it possible that Russia, like the barbarous Goths, could subjugate the more civilised portion of Europe,

the same effect, in less degree, would, doubtless, be produced, and society would be checked in its advancement. The march of intellectual improvement would be forced to keep pace with the slow progress of northern development; and the rapid career of science would have to contend with an adverse stream. But we need not fear this event; much as the influence of Russia has been felt, and eager as she no doubt is to extend her power. Arrogant as she may be, from a confidence in her vast resources, the very magnitude of her territorial possessions is the cause of weakness. The population, numerically great and constitutionally fierce and hardy, is so widely scattered as to embarrass extended operations. The distance from the seat of government, at which powerful chiefs reside, renders them less under its influence, while a state of freedom bordering on absolute independence, and a consciousness of unlimited power over a subservient people, inspire them with high ideas of their own importance, and a sullen impatience of imperial control. It is certain that the emperor must temporise with his refractory nobles, and concessions are necessary to subdue their rebellious spirit. The army itself partakes so much of that refractory disposition, which is fostered by the unhappy state of Russian society, that frequent and serious mutinies occur, which, in distant provinces, must be overlooked, or hushed up, to prevent the pernicious effect on other troops. Every successful revolt increases the presumption of the soldiery: and the despotic power of the emperor, who may punish misconduct in the most arbitrary manner, cannot be safely exercised among proud, irascible, and ungiving subjects. Our author thus expresses himself:—

"The politics of Russia have lately become a matter of increasing interest to the rest of Europe. She is no longer what she was, a semi-barbarous power, without knowledge, troops, or resources. On the contrary, she has attained a certain degree of civilisation, while, by her encroachments on other nations, so little heeded, she has acquired such a mass of men and territory, that it is now no easy matter to control her. A traveller, however, in the country itself, from which foreign newspapers and free discussion are vigilantly excluded, is not in a position to form so accurate an opinion on such subjects as an attentive observer posted on the political eminence of London or Paris, whence he may survey the whole of Europe through the clear medium of a free press. Still, no one can fail to see that Russia is likely to remember her triumph in closing the Dardanelles, and in compelling an English ambassador, before entering them, to quit his frigate, while her own ships of war pass to and fro without impediment. In Turkey, it is notorious that she is all powerful, and that Britain carries, comparatively, little weight. Not long ago, an Englishman was taken up by the police of Constantinople for some trifling breach of discipline, thrown into the Bagia, and treated with every indignity. During the night he laid his plans, and resolved to have recourse to an artifice. In the morning, when brought before the cadi, he found him raging against 'the English infidel' who had insulted the majesty of the 'Sublime Porte.' The offender demanded, indignantly, why he should be regarded as an Englishman? he owed allegiance to the high and mighty Czar of all the Russias; and to him he should complain of the insult offered to his subject. The cadi looked aghast, trembled, offered a thousand and one apologies, and entreated permission to send a

guard of honour to escort the late tenant of the Bagnio to his own house! Much may be learned from trifles; and the story, whether true or false, by its very currency, speaks volumes. The fact is, England is not esteemed abroad as England was; and of this a British traveller in any part of Europe will be made quickly and fully sensible. Nothing can more strikingly manifest the influence which Russia possesses on the Continent, than the mode in which she has induced governments, acting against their better judgment, to respect her orders." He gives an instance of this overpowering influence, in a circumstance relating to some Polish officers; but we hope the case is not exactly as he represents it.

The increase of naval power is a primary object with Russia, and possessing peculiar facilities for extending it, she has already done much, and is prosecuting the object with great vigour. Still it will be long, if ever such a time should arrive, ere the war-ships of Russia can rival the wooden bulwarks of Britain. They are not at present, an object of dread to Old England, were a war to break out; but it is, of all things, desirable to maintain our superiority in this our best and characteristic means of protection, offensive and defensive. The system of blockading the enemies' ports by squadrons of our huge seventy-fours, does not appear to be the plan which will be pursued in many cases hereafter—it will be often preferable to use steamers "men-of-war;" and we have heard Lord Dundonald say, that, in a war with Russia, he would speedily annihilate her navy, by running steam-frigates into her ports, and cutting out or blowing up every ship he found, retreating with the facility which steam power alone can impart.

Passing to Turkey, new scenery and manners arrested attention. Of the people, it is said,—“One of the prominent traits in the character of the Turks is indolence; which they carry to such an extent, that they seldom work while they have bread to eat. Their pride is no less remarkable: it is, perhaps, the only passion which proves stronger than their power of dissimulation; and Lord Byron justly characterises the Moslim, as

‘Well skilled to hide
All but unconquerable pride.’

The Turk is daring and courageous; implacable, when offended, and revengeful; but not quick to take offence. During the whole of our residence in Constantinople, the plague was raging; consequently, we and our attendants were always furnished with wands, by means of which, personal contact with passers-by was parried, often at the expense of politeness; and it sometimes happened that the tap of the stick was rather rough. Englishmen would not be slow to resent such treatment; but never, even on a single occasion, did we trace a symptom of anger in a Moslim. The Turk is avaricious in making money, and ostentatious in spending it. At the same time, he is honest and honourable; his word is as good as a bond in all pecuniary transactions; and a tradesman, unless corrupted by intercourse with Greeks and Franks, will seldom ask a price which he will abate, or avail himself of the ignorance of a customer to practise imposition. A great degree of propriety marks the conduct of the natives in public. No offensive sights are encountered in the streets; no cruelty towards animals is exhibited. Would that their private morals were consistent with their outward deportment! Over these we draw a veil. * * *

The Osmanlies are habitually charitable and hospitable. Nu-

merous fountains and caravanserais are erected by individuals for the benefit of travellers, and a portion of every pious man's wealth is devoted to the poor. When they are eating, a stranger is always welcome; and in the interior of the country, it has often happened, when we have been seeking a corner in which to pass the night, that a family, already too large for their apartment, has received us with kindness, bidding us welcome to the best fare in the house; and, on our departure, the host has either refused a recompense, or accepted only just sufficient to reimburse him for our food. If such treatment be not generally experienced by Franks, it is because they are regarded as infidels; and because religious animosity is a stronger passion than the love of hospitality. The follower of the prophet never rises to receive a Christian, and never greets him with the salutation of ‘Peace be to you!’ which he reserves for his Mussulman brother. Instead of this, however, he condescends to say, ‘Ooghoorolar oolsoon.’ ‘May your end be happy,’ or ‘your omens good.’ In eating and drinking, the natives are very moderate; while their food is of the simplest kind. This abstemiousness, and the habit of keeping early hours, tend to the preservation of health, and, consequently, in a certain degree, to the regulation of temper.”

The Turks are proverbially fond of bathing and frequent ablutions; and abundance of water is a luxury in such a climate. “The fountains are among the chief beauties of Constantinople. In each piazza, in the centre of the courts of all the mosques, in every market, and at the corner of many streets, one of these is to be seen, not like those of Italy, formed in grotesque or classical shapes, and ornamented with figures of various kinds, but a regular square structure, adorned with sentences from the Koran, and furnished with a spout on each side. There is something in Turkish buildings which is characteristic of a people always dignified, never trifling, without imagination, and shunning, with religious awe, the likeness of any thing in earth, air, or sea. Every thing in this country has a connexion, seen or unseen, with religion; and even the abundance of fountains is owing to the duty of frequent ablution enjoined by the Mahomedan sacred volume. As often as the Turk is called to prayer, so often is he directed to wash the face, neck, hands, and feet, previous to that holy exercise; and thus the fountain becomes a necessary appendage to the mosque. In this hot climate, nothing so much contributes to the general health of the people, next to their moderate use of meat and wine, as their frequent use of water. Establishments are found in all parts of the city, where a poor man may enjoy the luxury and benefit of a hot bath for a penny. These are generally crowded at certain hours by men, at others by women: sofas, coffee, sherbet, and chibouques, are supplied to the bathers, and the greatest decorum prevails.”

To obviate the inconveniences resulting from a scarcity of water, the emperors built cisterns, or reservoirs, on a gigantic scale, in different parts of the city; but four only of these are now in existence. One measures two hundred and forty feet in length, by about two hundred feet in breadth, and has a depth of five fathoms. That called “the subterranean house” (Yerek batan serai) is the most remarkable of those works.

“This is known to be the largest of all these enormous excavations, though its precise extent has not yet been ascertained, as all attempts to explore it have been baffled by the darkness and

the pestilential vapours. The entrance, which we had much difficulty in discovering, is not far from the Atmeidan, under a private house, whither we were conducted by the kindness of a Turkish gentleman who heard our dragoman inquiring the way. The pillars have Corinthian capitals, and are of the same size, ranged in the same manner, and at similar distances, as those of the Beem bir deerek and Iplikjee boodrumes: their height cannot be accurately estimated, because it is not known how deep they are buried in the earth. The Yerek batan serai is even to the present day a reservoir for the water of the city, and many wells are sunk into it in different parts.”

Franks are not admitted into mosques except by special firman, with the exception of that of Sultan Soliman, the most beautiful place of worship in the metropolis. Mr. Elliott and his friends found that a golden key would open the lock of two other mosque doors, but these buildings offer no variation requiring separate description.

“The mosque of Sultan Soliman is decorated externally with a handsome central cupola, two inferior ones, and a tall tapering minaret rising from each angle. Close to it are some plane-trees, of great size and beauty. The interior is a square, surrounded by large and regular galleries. One of these, set apart for the sultan, is adorned with gilded trellis work; and near it stands the pulpit of the chief imam, constructed of chaste marble. In another part is a fountain supported by columns of similar material, which, together with those that sustain the cupolas, and many of the valuable stones composing the structure, are said to have been brought from the ruins of Chalcedon. We measured one of the porphyry pillars, and found it to be twelve feet in circumference. The walls are covered with Arabic inscriptions, and from the ceiling are suspended scores of strings, to each of which is attached a small unsightly lamp, ready to be lighted for evening prayer, the egg of an ostrich, or some similar bagatelle. At sunrise, noon, and sunset, and once before and after noon, the Moslems are called to this sacred exercise; and their silent solemnity and apparent devotion are very striking. Time will not soon efface from my memory the impression first made, and often renewed, by the sight of hundreds of Mahomedans prostrating themselves, and bowing their foreheads to the ground, in the great mosque of Delhi, incomparably more splendid than any building existing at Constantinople; while the imam chanted in slow and solemn accents, and in the sonorous language of the Koran, ‘God is great and merciful. There is no God but God, and Mohammed is the prophet of God.’”

The present state of the apocalyptic churches are described, and interesting particulars in their history are given. The incidents of the journeying in the Holy Land, with graphic pictures of manners, and numerous anecdotes, render this portion of Mr. Elliott's travels extremely interesting. Christians are despised, and treated with great contempt, in Palestine; and it was remarked that at Tabberaea (Tiberias), where our Lord performed so many miracles, and where there are about three hundred families of believers, the Mahomedans treat them with more than ordinary contumely. The governor, after much entreaty, allowed the travellers to occupy a house without door or shutters, and afforded them but a scanty supply of sour milk and rice. At Nablos, where they were similarly treated, some Greeks, it appeared, had obtained permission to supply the cabin they inhabited with a door, but the cadi forbade its being made

higher than to admit a man stooping; which, it appears, is a customary mark of indignity. On this occasion, Mr. Elliott, backed by an order, or recommendation, from the governor-general, was able to prevail on the cadi to alter his decision, and, for their sakes, the Christians in that place were permitted to furnish their hovel with a door six feet high.

The margin of the lake Tiberias is, for fully a mile in extent, covered with the ruins of the former city, and the sides of the hills of Galilee rising above it are full of sepulchral caves, which are evidently of very remote antiquity. In the time of our Lord, Mr. Elliott remarks, they seemed to have been disused; and these dismal places became the haunt of maniacs and lepers, as is recorded in the eighth chapter of Matthew.

When visiting the Samaritans, he says:—

"It was with no common interest that we entered into the synagogue of these remarkable people, as a prelude to which, they required that we should take off our shoes." Their 'cohen,' or priest, shewed us a copy of the Pentateuch on two rollers, which they maintain to be the oldest manuscript in the world, saying that it was written by Abishug, the son of Phinehas, the son of Eleazar, the son of Aaron. It bears marks of very great age, and is here and there patched with pieces of parchment. Some of the learned are of opinion that it is only a transcript from Ezra's copy, written again in the old Hebrew or Phœnician letter, out of which Ezra transcribed it into that of the Chaldeans, then first adopted, and since commonly used, by the Jews: others are disposed to regard it as an independent record which has been preserved ever since the days of Jeroboam, first by the ten revolting tribes, and subsequently by the Samaritans. In either case it affords a remarkable testimony to the accurate preservation of the books of Moses during a period of two thousand three hundred years; for, as the rival sects of Christianity have acted as checks on each other, to prevent the corruption of any portion of the sacred Scriptures since the first schism in the Apostolic Church, so the quick-sighted jealousy of Jews and Samaritans has proved an infallible safeguard of the text of the Pentateuch since the days of their separation. In the earlier ages of society, when MSS. were scarce, and the knowledge of letters was confined to a very few, it would have been easy for an unanimous priesthood to mutilate the inspired volume; but even suspicion itself can have no place in reference to a record of faith kept with equal veneration and care by men whose national and religious antipathies have separated them in every other respect; but who, in their agreement as to that, afford incontestable evidence to its genuineness. Like the mountains of Ebal and Gerizim, as to which alone their manuscripts differ, they present a front of irreconcilable opposition; but their very hostility enhances the value of their testimony, and renders them unconscious guardians of the truth of that Mosaic dispensation, a full belief in which neither party admits to be possessed by the other."

There are many other interesting notices respecting the past and present state of that once hallowed, but now degraded portion of the world, the Holy Land. Very accurate and particular details respecting the venerable remains in and about Jerusalem are given. He reviews the controversy respecting the disputed site of the holy sepulchre and other subjects with much

ability, and throughout the volumes there are indications of much classical and scriptural acquirement.

AMERICAN LITERATURE.

[In continuation from No. 1131.]

Of *Pacaherlas*, a historical drama (No. 6), we have to state, that it is a well-devised attempt to illustrate, by dramatic forms, the earliest scenes of European colonisation in North America. The author has departed very slightly from actual history; and those who may tire of Smith's quaint Virginia, may take up the same characters and facts in the dramatic version here constructed. The Indian heroine, who gives the name to the piece, must always be interesting, and we have thought her extremely so in this speaking story.

Mr. Parker's journey to the scarcely traversed regions beyond the Rocky Mountains (No. 7) now claims our attention. The author stumbles a good deal about geology and other matters; and the best of his work consists in the actual observations which he made on things before his eyes. Since Lewis and Clark's expedition to the same quarter, we have had nothing so much to be relied upon or so "genuine." In proof we select a few pages here and there, (we mean in the volume, but only there as regards the country beyond the Rocky Mountains). Of the remarkable far-west mounds, the author gives a striking account.

"Thirtieth, drew near to Council Bluffs, and passed down from the high rolling prairie, through a vale two or three miles long, and a half mile wide, into the rich alluvial, and widely extended valley of the Missouri, through a section of country of uncommonly interesting scenery. The mounds, which some have called the work of unknown generations of men, were scattered here in all varieties of forms and magnitudes; and thousands in number, and, perhaps, I may say ten thousands. Some of these mounds were conical, some elliptical, some square, and some were parallelograms. One group of these attracted my attention more than any others. They were twelve in number, of conical form, with their bases joined, and twenty or thirty feet high. They formed about two-thirds of a circle, with an area of two hundred feet in diameter. If these were isolated, who would not say they are artificial? But when they are only a group of ten thousand others, which have as much the appearance of being artificial, who will presume to say they are the work of man? But if they are the work of art, and attest the number, the genius, and perseverance, of departed nations whose works have survived the lapse of ages, we would interrogate the authors; but no voice replies to ours. All is silent as the midnight grave. 'The mind seeks in vain for some clue to assist it in unravelling the mystery. Was their industry stimulated by the desire to protect themselves against inroads of invaders, or were they themselves the aggressors?' 'Are they the monuments of western Pharaohs, and do they conceal treasures which may yet be brought to light?' There is nothing plainer than that they were never designed as works of defence. But some, while they admit they were not designed for offensive or defensive operations of belligerent powers, suppose they were erected as 'mausoleums, and that the difference in their size was intended to convey an idea of the difference in the relative importance of those whose bones they cover.' If this theory is true, the La Trappe on the Mississippi, which I had an opportunity of examining on my northern tour, which is as much as one hundred and fifty feet high, and covering

about six acres, must inclose mighty bones, or the bones of a mighty monarch. I would not be understood to dissent from the belief that there are any artificial mounds in the great valley of the west, but I believe there is a great mistake upon this subject. It is said by those who advocate the belief that they are the work of ancient nations, that they present plain evidence of this, from the fact that they contain human bones, articles of pottery, and the like, which evince that they were constructed for burying-places of the dead. That some of them have been used for burying-places, is undoubtedly true; but may it not be questionable, whether they were made, or only selected for, burying-places? No one, who has ever seen the thousands and ten thousands scattered through the valley of the Mississippi, will ever be so credulous as to believe, that a five-hundredth part of them are the work of man."

The tour is not well written, and there is much maudlin religion, which is, however, allowable in a missionary expedition, where the motives must be taken into consideration. A person piously devoting himself to toil and peril for what he deems the good of his fellow-creatures, must, even if tenfold more religiously conventional than Mr. Parker, merit respect and sympathy. He may tell us,

"The Indian mode of living is very precarious, and yet they are not very anxious about the future. When they have a plenty, they are not sparing; and when they are in want, they do not complain. The Indians, at this time, were almost destitute of provisions; and we were approaching the Salmon River Mountains, to pass over which occupies between twelve and fifteen days, and in which there are no buffalo and scarcely any other game. I felt a prayerful concern for them, that God would send them a supply before we should get beyond the range of buffalo, and was confident that we should experience the truth of God's word, that he provides for all their meat in due season; and as the cattle upon the thousand hills are his, so he would not withhold from these Indians a supply of their need."

Yet they often perish from want and starvation.

Mr. Parker bears testimony to the laudable conduct of the Hudson Bay Company in their dealings with the Indians; but speaks very differently of the encroaching settlers of the far west, who, in many respects, appear to be greater savages than the children of the woods and prairies. Of the Indians themselves, the Blackfeet are the most cruel and untamable. At one place, Mr. P. says:—

"We expected to have found buffalo in this valley, but saw none. As parties of Blackfeet warriors often range this way, it was probable they had lately been here and frightened them away. As we were on our way from our last encampment, I was shewn the place where the men of the fur companies, at the time of their rendezvous two years before, had a battle with the Blackfeet Indians. Of the Blackfeet party there were about sixty men, and more than the same number of women and children; of the white men in the valley, there were some few hundred who could be called into action. From the information given me, it appeared that these Indians were on their way through this valley, and unexpectedly met about forty hunters and trappers going out from rendezvous to the southwest on their fall and winter hunt. The Indians manifested an unwillingness to fight, and presented them tokens of peace; but they were not reciprocated. The Indians who came forward to stipulate terms of peace were fired upon

* Proving that they considered the place a temple for worship, which the Jews do not profess their synagogues to be.

and killed. When the Indians saw their danger, they fled to the cotton-wood trees and willows which were scattered along the stream of water, and taking the advantage of some fallen trees, constructed as good defence as time and circumstances would permit. They were poorly provided with guns, and still more poorly with ammunition. The trappers keeping out of reach of their arrows, and being well armed with the best rifles, made the contest unequal; and still more unequal, when, by an express sent to rendezvous, they were reinforced by veterans in mountain life. The hunters, by keeping at a safe distance, in the course of a few hours killed several of the Indians, and almost all their horses, which, in their situation could not be protected, while they themselves suffered but small loss. The numbers killed on both sides have been differently stated, but considering the numbers engaged, and the length of time the skirmishing continued, it could not have been a bloody battle; and not much to the honour of civilised Americans. The excuse made for forcing the Blackfeet into battle is, that if they had come upon a small party of trappers, they would have butchered them and seized upon the plunder. If heathen Blackfeet would have done so, is this an apology for civilised white men to render evil for evil? What a noble opportunity there was for our American citizens to have set an example of humanity! When the night drew near, the hunters retired to their encampment at the place of rendezvous, and the Indians made their escape. Thus the famous battle of Pierre's Hole began and ended."

Other tribes visited by the author were gentle and friendly; and of these and the new tracts he explored, the account is interesting.

Mr. Fenimore Cooper's *American Democrat* (No. 8), published at Cooperstown—(how aristocratic that sounds!)—is a lesson read to the people in these quarters, to teach them their social and national duties. The author's views and statements on many subjects connected with governments, law, obedience, language, the press, religion, &c. are those of an able man, who has not only seen, but thought much. We do not inquire whether his opinions are likely to be palatable or the reverse, either in the United States or elsewhere; but we make a selection of such as will exemplify the character of the work. The Introduction tells us:

"This little work has been written, in consequence of its author having had many occasions to observe the manner in which principles, that are of the last importance to the happiness of the community, are getting to be

confounded in the popular mind. Notions that are impracticable, and which, if persevered in, cannot fail to produce disorganisation, if not revolution, are widely prevalent; and while many seem disposed to complain, few shew a disposition to correct them. In those instances in which efforts are made to resist or to advance the innovations of the times, the writers take the extremes of the disputed points; the one side looking as far behind it, over ground that can never be retread, as the other looks ahead, in the idle hope of substituting a fancied perfection for the ills of life. It is the intention of this book to make a commencement towards a more just discrimination between truth and prejudice. With what success the task has been accomplished, the honest reader will judge for himself. The Americans are obnoxious to the charge of tolerating gross personalities, a state of things that encourages bodies of men in their errors while it oppresses individuals, and which never produced good of any sort, at the very time they are nationally irritable on the subject of common failings. This is reversing the case as it exists in most civilised countries, where personalities excite disgust, and society is deemed fair game. This weakness in the American character might easily be accounted for, but the object being rather to amend than to explain, the body of the work is referred to for examples. Power always has most to apprehend from its own illusions. Monarchs have incurred more hazards from the follies of their own, that have grown up under the adulation of parasites, than from the machinations of their enemies; and, in a democracy, the delusion that would elsewhere be poured into the ears of the prince, is poured into those of the people. It is hoped that this work, while free from the spirit of partisanship, will be thought to be exempt from this imputation. The writer believes himself to be as good a democrat as there is in America. But his democracy is not of the impracticable school. He prefers a democracy to any other system, on account of its comparative advantages, and not on account of its perfection. He knows it has evils—great and increasing evils, and evils peculiar to itself; but he believes that monarchy and aristocracy have more. It will be very apparent to all who read this book, that he is not a believer in the scheme of raising men very far above their natural propensities. A long absence from home has, in a certain degree, put the writer in the situation of a foreigner in his own country—a situation probably much better for noting peculiarities than that of one who never left it. Two things have struck him painfully on his return—a disposition in the majority to carry out the opinions of the system to extremes, and a disposition in the minority to abandon all to the current of the day, with the hope that this current will lead, in the end, to radical changes. Fifteen years since, all complaints against the institutions were virtually silenced, whereas now it is rare to hear them praised, except by the mass, or by those who wish to profit by the favours of the mass. In the midst of these conflicting opinions, the voice of simple, honest, and what, in a country like this, ought to be fearless, truth, is nearly smothered; the one party effecting its ends by fulsome, false, and meretricious eulogiums, in which it does not itself believe, and the other giving utterance to its discontent in useless and unmanly complaints. It has been the aim of the writer to avoid both these errors also. No attempt has been made to write very profound treatises

on any of the subjects of this little book. The limits and objects of the work forbade it; the intention being rather to present to the reader those opinions that are suited to the actual condition of the country, than to dwell on principles more general. A work of the size of this might be written on the subject of 'Instruction' alone; but it has been the intention to present reasons and facts to the reader that are peculiarly American, rather than to exhaust the subjects. Had a suitable compound offered, the title of this book would have been something like 'Anti-Cant;' for such a term expresses the intention of the writer better, perhaps, than the one he has actually chosen. The work is written more in the spirit of censure than of praise, for its aim is correction; and virtues bring their own reward, while errors are dangerous."

The following is another well-written essay, and on a subject that interests all civilised men—the press.

"It would seem that Providence, for some of its own great ends, has denied to man any particular blessing which his own waywardness is not destined to lessen, if not entirely to neutralise. In nothing connected with human happiness is this grave truth more apparent than in the history of the press. In despotisms, where the weakness of the bodies of nations is derived from an ignorance of their force, and from the want of means to act in concert, the press is the lever by which the thrones of tyrants and prejudices are the most easily overturned; and, under such circumstances, men often contend for privileges in its behalf, that become dangerous to the peace of society, when civil and political rights are obtained. In a popular government, so far from according an entire immunity from penalties to the press, its abuses are those which society is required, by its very safety, to visit with its heaviest punishments. In a democracy, misleading the public mind as regards facts, characters, or principles, is corrupting all that is dear to society at its source; opinion being the fountain whence justice, honours, and the laws, equally flow. It is a misfortune that necessity has induced men to accord greater license to this formidable engine, in order to obtain liberty, than can be borne with less important objects in view; for the press, like fire, is an excellent servant, but a terrible master. It may be taken as rules, that, without the liberty of the press, there can be no popular liberty in a nation; and with its licentiousness, neither public honesty, justice, nor a proper regard for character. Of the two, perhaps, that people is the happiest which is deprived altogether of a free press; since private honesty, and a healthful tone of the public mind, are not incompatible with narrow institutions, though neither can well exist under the constant corrupting action of a licentious press. The governing principle connected with this interest, would seem to depend on a general law, which, under abuses, converts the most beneficial moral agents to be the greatest enemies of the race. The press is equally capable of being made the instrument of elevating man to the highest point of which his faculties admit, or of depressing him to the lowest. In struggling for liberty and emancipation from errors and prejudices, men have not always paused to reflect on the influence of the agents they have employed, when those agents, from contending with a powerful enemy, shall have become conquerors, and have begun to look about them for the fruits of victory. The press, so efficient as the opponent

* "Since my return, I have seen an account of this battle, written by a graphic hand, in all the fascinating style of romance, representing the Indians as having entrenched themselves in a swamp, so densely wooded as to be almost impenetrable; and there they kept the trappers at bay, until they were reinforced from rendezvous. When the Blackfeet saw the whole valley alive with horsemen rushing to the field of action, they withdrew into the dark tangled wood. When the leaders of the several hunting parties came into the field, they urged their men to enter the swamp; but they hung back in awe of the dismal horrors of the place, regarding it impenetrable and full of danger. But the leaders would not be turned from their purpose—made their wills, appointed their executors—grasped their rifles, and urged their way through the woods. A brisk fire was opened, and the Blackfeet were completely overmatched, but would not leave their fort, nor offer to surrender. The numerous veteran mountaineers, well equipped, did not storm the fort without opposition. With those who have seen the field of battle, the glowing description, drawn out in long detail, loses its interest; for, although I saw it, yet I did not see the dense woods, nor a swamp of any magnitude any where near."

of tyrants, may become despotic itself; it may substitute new errors for those it has eradicated; and, like an individual spoiled by success, may generally abuse its advantages. Many false notions have been introduced into society, in the desire to vindicate the rights of so powerful an agent. Of these, one of the worst is the admission of a claim in the press to interfere, in any manner, with private character. The good of such an interference, is, at the best, but doubtful; and the oppression, in those cases in which injustice is done, is of the most intolerable and irreparable kind. It would be a proper and a just, though an insufficient atonement, in cases of established libel, to vest a power in the courts to compel the libeller to publish, for a series of weeks, or months, or even years, his own condemnation in his own columns, that the antidote might accompany the poison; though it is to be feared, that the possession of popular rights is still too recent to permit the majority of men to entertain correct notions concerning an instrument that, they rightly fancy, has been so serviceable in the conflict they have just escaped. It ought never to be forgotten that the press, contending for natural but forbidden rights, is no more like the press when these rights are obtained, than the man struggling with adversity, and chastened by misfortune, is like the man flushed with success and corrupted by prosperity. The history of the press is every where the same. In its infancy it is timid, distrustful, and dependent on truth for success. As it acquires confidence with force, it propagates just opinions with energy; scattering errors and repelling falsehood, until it prevails; when abuses rush in, confounding principles, truths, and all else that is estimable; until it becomes a serious matter of doubt, whether a community derives most good or evil from the institution."

On the American press, particularly, it will be instructive to read Mr. Cooper's opinion:—

"The newspaper press of this country is distinguished from that of Europe in several essential particulars. While there are more prints, they are generally of a lower character. It follows that in all in which they are useful, their utility is more diffused through society, and in all in which they are hurtful, the injury they inflict is more wide spread and corrupting. The great number of newspapers in America, is a cause of there being so little capital; and, consequently, so little intelligence employed in their management. It is, also, a reason of the inexactitude of much of the news they circulate. It requires a larger investment of capital than is usual in this country to obtain correct information; while, on the other hand, the great competition renders editors reckless and impatient to fill their columns. To these circumstances may be added the greater influence of vague and unfounded rumours in a vast and thinly settled country, than on a compact population, covering a small surface. Discreet and deserving men have questioned, whether, after excluding the notices of deaths and marriages, one-half of the circumstances that are related in the newspapers of America, as facts, are true in their essential features; and, in cases connected with party politics, it may be questioned if even so large a proportion can be set down as accurate. This is a terrible picture to contemplate, for when the number of prints is remembered, and the avidity with which they are read is brought into the account, we are made to perceive that the entire nation, in a moral sense, breathes an atmosphere of falsehoods. There is little use,

however, in concealing the truth; on the contrary, the dread in which public men and writers commonly stand of the power of the press to injure them, has permitted the evil to extend so far, that it is scarcely exceeding the bounds of a just alarm to say, that the country cannot much longer exist in safety under the malign influence that now overshadows it. Any one who has lived long enough to note changes of the sort, must have perceived how fast men of probity and virtue are losing their influence in the country, to be superseded by those who scarcely deem an affectation of the higher qualities necessary to their success. This fearful change must, in a great measure, be ascribed to the corruption of the public press; which, as a whole, owes its existence to the schemes of interested political adventurers. Those who are little acquainted with the world are apt to imagine that a fact or an argument that is stated publicly in print, is entitled to more credit and respect than the same fact or argument presented orally, or in conversation. So far from this being true, however, in regard to the press of this country, it would be safer to infer the very reverse. Men who are accustomed daily to throw off their mistatements, become reckless of the consequences, and he who would hesitate about committing himself by an allegation made face to face, and, as it were, on his personal responsibility, would indite a paragraph, behind the impersonality of his editorial character, to be uttered to the world in the irresponsible columns of a journal. It is seldom, in cases which admit of doubt, that men are required to speak on the moment; but, with the compositor in waiting, the time pressing, and the moral certainty that a rival establishment will circulate the questionable statement if he decline, the editor too often throws himself into the breach. The contradiction of to-day will make a paragraph as well as the lie of yesterday; though he who sees the last and not the first, unless able to appreciate the character of his authority, carries away an untruth. Instead of considering the editor of a newspaper as an abstraction, with no motive in view but that of maintaining principles and disseminating facts, it is necessary to remember that he is a man, with all the interests and passions of one who has chosen this means to advance his fortunes; and, of course, with all the accompanying temptations to abuse his opportunities; and this too, usually, with the additional drawback of being a partisan in politics, religion, or literature. If the possession of power, in ordinary cases, is a constant inducement to turn it to an unjust profit, it is peculiarly so in the extraordinary case of the control of a public press. Editors praise their personal friends and abuse their enemies in print, as private individuals praise their friends and abuse their enemies with their tongues. Their position increases the number of each, and the consequence is, that the readers obtain inflated views of the first, and unjust notions of the last. If newspapers are useful in overthrowing tyrants, it is only to establish a tyranny of their own. The press tyrannises over public men, letters, the arts, the stage, and even over private life. Under the pretence of protecting public morals, it is corrupting them to the core; and, under the semblance of maintaining liberty, it is gradually establishing a despotism as ruthless, as grasping, and one that is quite as vulgar, as that of any Christian state known. With loud professions of freedom of opinion, there is no tolerance; with a parade of patriotism, no sacrifice of interest; and with fulsome panegyrics on propriety, too frequently

no decency. There is but one way of extricating the mind from the baneful influence of the press of this country, and that is by making a rigid analysis of its nature and motives. By remembering that all statements that involve disputed points are *ex parte*; that there is no impersonality, except in professions; that all the ordinary passions and interests act upon its statements with less than the ordinary responsibilities; and that there is the constant temptation to abuse which ever accompanies power;—one may come, at last, to a just appreciation of its merits, and, in a degree, learn to neutralise its malignant influence. But this is a freedom of mind that few attain, for few have the means of arriving at these truths! The admixture of truth and falsehood in the intelligence circulated by the press, is one of the chief causes of its evils. A journal that gave utterance to nothing but untruths, would lose its influence with its character, but there are none so ignorant as not to see the necessity of occasionally issuing truths. It is only in cases in which the editor has a direct interest to the contrary, in which he has not the leisure or the means of ascertaining facts, or in which he is himself misled by the passions, cupidity, and interests, of others, that untruths find a place in his columns. Still these instances may, perhaps, include a majority of the cases. In a country like this, it is indispensable to mental independence, that every man should have a clear perception of the quality of the political news, and of the political opinions, circulated by the press, for he who confides implicitly to its statements is yielding himself blindly to either the designed and exaggerated praises of friends, or to the calculated abuse of opponents. As no man is either as good or as bad as vulgar report makes him, we can at once see the value that ought to be given to such statements. All representations that dwell wholly on merits or on faults are to be distrusted, since none are perfect; and it may, perhaps, be added, none utterly without some redeeming qualities. Whenever the papers unite to commend, without qualification, it is safe to believe in either venality, or a disposition to defer to a preconceived notion of excellence; most men choosing to float with the current, rather than to resist it, when no active motive urges a contrary course; feeding falsehood, because it flatters a predilection; and whenever censure is general and sweeping, one may be almost certain it is exaggerated and false. Puffs, political, literary, personal, and national, can commonly be detected by their *ex parte* statements; as may be their counterpart—detraction. Dishonesty of intention is easily discovered by the man of the world, in both, by the tone; and he who blindly receives either eulogium or censure because they stand audaciously in print, demonstrates that his judgment is still in its infancy. Authors review themselves, or friends are employed to do it for them; political adventures have their dependants, who build their fortunes on those of their patrons; artists, players, and even religionists, are not above having recourse to such expedients to advance their interests and reputations. The world would be surprised to learn the tyranny that the press has exercised, in our own times, over some of the greatest of modern names, few men possessing the manliness and moral courage that are necessary to resist its oppression. The people that has overturned the throne of a monarch, and set up a government of opinion in its stead, and which blindly yields its interests to the designs of those who would rule through the instrumentality of newspapers, has only exchanged one form of

despotism for another. It is often made a matter of boasting, that the United States contain so many public journals. It were wiser to make it a cause of mourning, since the quality, in this instance, diminishes in an inverse ratio to the quantity. Another reason may be found for the deleterious influence of the American press, in the peculiar physical condition of the country. In all communities, the better opinion, whether as relates to moral or scientific truths, tastes, manners, and facts, is necessarily in the keeping of a few; the great majority of mankind being precluded by their opportunities from reaching so high in the mental scale. The proportion between the intelligent and whole numbers, after making a proper allowance on account of the difference in civilisation, is probably as great in this country as in any other; possibly it is greater among the males; but the great extent of the territory prevents its concentration, and, consequently, weakens its influence. Under such circumstances, the press has less to contend with than in other countries, where designing and ignorant men would stand rebuked before the collected opinion of those who, by their characters and information, are usually too powerful to be misled by vulgarity, sophistry, and falsehood. Another reason is to be found in the popular character of the government, bodies of men requiring to be addressed in modes suited to the average qualities of masses. In America, while the contest was for great principles, the press aided in elevating the common character, in improving the common mind, and in maintaining the common interests; but, since the contest has ceased, and the struggle has become one purely of selfishness and personal interests, it is employed, as a whole, in fast undermining its own work, and in preparing the nation for some terrible reverses, if not in calling down upon it a just judgment of God. As the press of this country now exists, it would seem to be expressly devised by the great agent of mischief, to depress and destroy all that is good, and to elevate and advance all that is evil in the nation. The little truth that is urged, is usually urged coarsely, weakened and rendered vicious by personalities; while those who live by falsehoods, fallacies, enmities, partialities, and the schemes of the designing, find the press the very instrument that the devils would invent to effect their designs. A witty but unprincipled statesman of our own times has said, that 'speech was bestowed on man to conceal his thoughts'; judging from its present condition, he might have added, 'and the press to pervert truth.'

We are not quite sure but much of this will apply nearer home; and will only add that whoever the cap fits may wear it, and wish that the eyes of the public may be opened to the wearers.

In his remarks on language, we observe Mr. Cooper says—

"The word 'gentleman' is derived from the French *gentilhomme*, which originally signified one of noble birth. This was at a time when the characteristics of the condition were never found beyond a caste. As society advanced, ordinary men attained the qualifications of nobility, without that of birth, and the meaning of the word was extended."

We merely notice this, to inform the writer, that he is wrong in his derivation; for, strange as it is, the term *gentleman* is not originally derived from "noble birth," nor from gentle manners, but the very reverse: it is derived from *Barbarians*. When the stern hordes of the north invaded the Roman empire, and desolated Rome, they were called *Gentiles homines*;

and hence has come the compound of so different a meaning in the modern French and English tongues.

Observations on the Nilgherries, including an Account of their Topography, Climate, Soil, and Productions, and of the Effects of the Climate on the European Constitution. By R. Baillie, Esq. M.D. Edited by W. H. Smout, Esq. 8vo. pp. 136. Calcutta, 1834.

THIS volume, got up in a style to do credit to the Indian press and art, contains the most ample account we have met with of those salubrious hills, whither our countrymen, suffering from the climate of India, are happy to transport themselves to recruit their health and restore their shattered frames to vigour. The topography, soil, productions, scenery, &c., furnish interesting topics to relieve the more important statements regarding the effect of the climate on European constitutions and the drier details of routes, maps, and approaches. The portions most likely to attract the notice of readers in England, however, are those which touch on natural history and produce; and from them we shall make our quotations.

"Some few fruits, and an immense variety of vegetables, have been introduced by the European visitants. From some cause, however, whether from the soil being too rich, or want of skill in the cultivation, they are often woody, and want flavour. What seems to prove the want of precaution is, that some of the residents, who have bestowed more care than usual, have succeeded perfectly with almost every description of esculent vegetable to be found in Europe."

This is only one proof how much may be done for the interchange of useful products between the mother country and India.

"There appears no doubt, from the experiments which have already been made, and the analogies of climate, that almost every description of European vegetables, fruit, and grain, might be advantageously cultivated on the hills. Potatoes in any quantity; oats for feeding horses; barley for brewing* beer, or distilling; mangel-wurzel, or turnips for feeding cattle; and a host of kitchen vegetables are among the first that occur to us. Coffee would undoubtedly grow on the slopes of the lower valleys; and Baron Hügel found in considerable abundance, near Coonoor, the *Camellia Japonica*, which is said to affect the same soil, climate, and exposure, as some of the more valuable descriptions of the tea-plant; from which, and other circumstances, he inferred that the latter might be cultivated with advantage. My friend, the late Dr. Christie, had come to the same conclusion, and commissioned some plants from China, some of which came into my possession after his death, and have been distributed to various parts of the hills for trial. * *"

"If a proper selection of ground were made at Dimhatty, Orange Valley, or Bilycul, and walls or espaliers erected, fruit of any kind, and in almost any quantity, might be raised. The cultivation of medicinal plants, such as rhubarb, conium maculatum, hyoscyamus niger, &c. &c. would undoubtedly be highly advantageous. The simple apparatus described in Arnot's 'Physics for Evaporation' *sub vacuo* might be adopted with great advantage for preparing the extracts of these and similar other plants, now procured at great expense from Europe."

In zoology we hear:—

"Of the larger animals, the elephant, though * * No hops have yet been discovered on the hills, but I have seen them growing wild in immense abundance, in a soil and climate nearly analogous, in the province of Kakhetia, in Georgia."

numerous in the surrounding jungle, and occasionally seen in the passes, is not found in the table-land. The royal tiger is an occasional visitant, and is as usual destructive, but they seem to lose part of their ferocity in this cold climate, and in general fall an easy prey to the sportsman. Cheetas are more numerous; one has been in possession of a thick wood in one corner of the cantonment for some years, and now and then carries off a dog, or calf, or some animal of similar size. Jackals are very numerous, and wild dogs not uncommon; neither wolves nor foxes are met with. An animal nearly resembling the martin is sometimes seen; as also the polecat. Bears of a large black species are frequently met with; they appear harmless, though sufficiently fierce when wounded or otherwise roused. They are most common in the early part of the monsoon, when they ascend in pursuit of a large brown beetle then very numerous; they also feed on roots, and the ground is often turned up by them to a considerable extent.

"A singular and rather rare animal is known under the name of jungle sheep, which is, however, a misnomer, as they are true deer, and of the sub-genus *Styllocerus*; they evidently belong to the tribe described in Cuvier under the name Muntjak, but I am at loss whether to class them as *Cervus Muntjak* (Kijang) or *Cervus moschatus* (Nepaul Muntjak). Their principal peculiarity is a sort of process, two or three inches long, growing out of the skull, covered with the skin; and into which the horns are inserted, the process being continued down to the nose. They are rather scarce, being found in pairs, and very shy and difficult to approach. Their flesh is very dark-coloured, and very delicate eating, partaking of that of hare and deer, but superior to both. It approaches more nearly, in appearance and flavour, to that of the wild sheep of Persia than any other game I have met with."

The author very properly refers to Captain Harkness for the description of the extraordinary aboriginal race inhabiting the summit of these hills. This peculiar and pastoral people are only about six hundred in number, and differ essentially from all the people around them. Their portraits, as here given, are striking and Roman-like.

The work is also embellished by views, flower-pieces, buildings, plans, &c. &c. &c., which, as we have already noticed, are executed in a style that shews a marked improvement in eastern book-making.

ARTS AND SCIENCES. THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION.

EIGHTH MEETING: NEWCASTLE.
[Sixth notice.]
SATURDAY.

THREE only of the Sections met this day. Little more was done than the reading the mere titles of the papers, followed by a verbal explanation, from the several authors, of those points most important for consideration. This proceeding was necessitated by the many communications which were in the hands of the committees, not yet read, and by the meeting of the general committee at one o'clock.

SECTION C.—Geology and Geography.

Sections, enlarged from those of Mr. Cotta recently published, exhibiting granite and syenite overlaying chalk at Hohnstein, Oleran, and Weinböhle, in Saxony, were explained by Dr. Buckland, and Mr. Cotta's work laid on the table. Coloured sectional drawings, and observations by Mr. N. Wood, illustrated the sandstone of the Tweed and of Carlisle, above

the magnesian limestone in the former neighbourhood, and below it in the latter.

'On the Organic Remains of the Newer Pliocene Formations of the British Isles,' by Mr. Smith.

Exhibited and laid upon the table by Prof. Ehrenberg, his new work 'On recent Infusoria.' Also, specimens of flint, semi-opal, &c. containing myriads of fossil infusoria.

Brief remarks by Mr. Witham, 'On the Occurrence of Rolled Stones in the Main Coal-seam of Cockfield Fell Colliery,' followed.

Sections of the mountain limestone of Alston Moor, forming a part of the illustrations of the stratification across from the German Ocean at Sunderland to the Irish Sea at Whitehaven, were explained by Mr. Sopwith. The whole series are in progress for a future meeting of the Association; they include the coal district of the county of Durham, by Mr. Buddle; the lead-mine district, by Mr. Sopwith; the Cumbrian groups, by Professor Sedgwick; and the Whitehaven Coal-field, by Mr. W. Peile. We should like to see the whole of the British isles similarly illustrated, and by men equally competent.

A geological model of the Forest of Dean, constructed for the Commissioners of Woods and Forests, was exhibited by Mr. Sopwith. Several, amongst whom were Dr. Buckland and Professor Sedgwick, spoke highly of the beauty and truth of the model, extending over, and accurately reducing, an area of thirty-six miles, shewing the undulating surface and general character of the country, and exhibiting, the upper portion being removed, the different strata underneath, the localities and arrangement of the coal-beds, and minerals, &c. It exposed the situation of every lump of coal of that basin, the portions already worked and those as yet untouched, and it pointed out the facilities of working the fit places for shafts, &c. Mr. Sopwith pointed out one great use of models of this description, viz. the making and defining the boundaries of mining properties, and thereby preventing trespass. In cases where two mining properties joined each other, it was extremely difficult to keep the workings of one clear of the other. He remembered a case in which such a model would have saved 40,000 guineas. A lease was taken of part of a mine, and a condition was attached, that a guinea should be paid for every square yard of coal taken in trespass; and it so happened that the workmen mistook their way, and worked the coal in one direction; whilst they imagined that they were working in a diametrically opposite direction, and 40,000 square yards of coal were wrought before the mistake was found out.

A brief account of the 'Southern Boundary of the Penine Chain,' was then given by Mr. Jukes; also, remarks 'On Geological Evidence and Inferences,' by Mr. Austen.

Observations were made, by Dr. Adams, 'On Peat Bogs,' and 'On the Practice of Sprinkling the Ground, after the Removal of the Surface, with Sulphuric Acid, to produce Fertility,' also, 'The like Treatment of the Surface Moss, to produce excellent Manure.'

Major Portlock said he was aware of the practice, but he believed it was done, not only for the purpose of converting the peat into manure, but also to correct some deleterious qualities in the peat.

Professor Sedgwick suggested that something should be distinctly ascertained, and communicated to the Association at their next meeting, for the subject was one of importance. The principle, no doubt, was, as Major Portlock had stated it, to destroy bad vegetation by

means of poison. It must be recollected, however, that the peat moss was of the utmost value to the poor peasantry of Ireland.

Mr. Bates said, that he had tried a similar experiment thirty years ago; and, in the first year, the piece of ground was rendered very prolific. But, he tried it the next year, and did more mischief than he had in the first instance done good.

Mr. Leithart, 'On Faults, their Anticlinal and Synclinal Axes;'—Mr. Hall, 'On the Metalliferous Rocks of Derbyshire;'—and Mr. T. Selby, 'On General Geological Phenomena,' completed the business of the Section.

SECTION E.—Medical Science.

The papers read were:—

'On Anthracosis occurring in an Individual who had worked in a Lead Mine,' by Mr. Crawford.

A desultory, contradictory, inconclusive discussion ensued, as to the prevalence of this disease in the coal districts of Newcastle.

'On the Medicinal and Poisonous Properties of some of the Iodides,' by Dr. A. T. Thomson.

The action of the iodide of arsenic, formed the principal subject of the paper. Different modes of preparation were detailed, its consequent characters described, and specimens exhibited. The iodide of arsenic, in minute doses, from one-eighth to one-third of a grain, is very serviceable in cases of lepra vulgaris and chronic impetigo. Tumours resembling carcinoma, have yielded to its continued action; and it had been found successful in a more decided case of incipient carcinoma. Its effects when given in overdoses, similar to those of arsenious acid, were described in a series of experiments on dogs. When injected into a vein, it destroyed life by destroying the irritability of the heart. Coloured drawings of the morbid effects on the alimentary canal were exhibited.

'On the Placental Souffle,' by Dr. Adams. Remarkable stethoscopic phenomena are sometimes heard in connexion with it.

SECTION G.—Mechanics.

The papers, and the titles of communications, read to-day, were numerous, in consequence of yesterday having been devoted to an excursion.

'On Riveting Boiler-Plates by Machinery,' by Mr. W. Fairbairne.

Mr. Fairbairne described the machinery which he had invented for making boilers. Two men and two boys are enabled to fix eight rivets, three-quarter inch diameter, per minute, or nearly 500 per hour, whereas, by the ordinary operation, with an additional man, not more than forty can be fixed; the advantage is therefore about 120 to one, besides the saving of the labour of one man. By this machine an ordinary locomotive boiler, ten feet six inches by one foot diameter, can be riveted, and the plates fitted in four hours; whereas the time required, without this machine, would be twenty hours. This advantage is also gained; the rivets being hot, the holes are completely filled, and the rivet, by its contraction, draws the plates so closely together, that the joints are perfect. On testing a high-pressure boiler made by this machine, to 200 lbs. on the square inch, there was no leakage; but in a boiler made by hand, it occurred at many of the rivets.

'On the Construction of Timber Viaducts,' by Mr. B. Green.

The timber viaducts constructed by Mr. Green, on several lines of railway, consist of arches on stone piers. Each arch is composed of three ribs, and each rib is put together with

three-inch deals, in lengths of from twenty to forty-five feet, and with two of the deals in the width. The first course is laid down with two whole deals in width, and the next with one whole and two half deals, and so on alternately until the rib is formed. Each rib consists of sixteen deals in thickness. The ribs are connected together by diagonal braces and iron bolts. The spandrels are peculiarly strutted. The timber had been subjected to Kyan's process, and brown paper, dipped in tar, had been laid between each deal. This principle has been applied by Mr. Green to the construction of arches with laminated plates of iron, from one and a half to four inches square, and varying from fifteen to five and twenty feet in length, grooved in the under, and tongued in the upper side. They are bound together at intervals with iron straps round the rib: the spandrels are fitted with iron struts. Bridges of this construction have a very light and elegant appearance; and a saving of expense is thereby effected.

'On an Improved Method of Working the Valves of a Locomotive Engine,' by Professor Willis. The invention was Mr. Hawthorn's, dispensing with the usual eccentrics for working the valves, the required motion being obtained by means of a pin placed at the centre of the connecting rod, and giving to a frame a reciprocating movement in a vertical direction on every revolution of the crank. The frame is fitted with arms, communicating motion to the slides. What is technically termed leading the slide, or opening the slide for admission of steam into the cylinder shortly before the completion of the stroke by the piston, so as to correspond with the various speeds of the piston, cannot be arranged without great difficulty where eccentrics are used. The operation by Mr. Hawthorn's method is performed by simply adjusting a screw, so that the angle, at which the frame is set, may be constantly changed.

'On Methods of Filtering Water,' by Mr. J. Hawkins. A filter, which will for many years purify and clarify water, may be constructed of a garden-pot, or other baked clay vessel, with holes in the bottom. The bottom should be covered with round pebbles, smaller pebbles on them, then coarse sand, and finally a layer of pounded charcoal three or four inches thick, nothing should be placed above the charcoal. The charcoal should have been well burnt, and kept from exposure to the atmosphere. A test of good charcoal is, that when powdered, it sinks rapidly in water.

'On the Effect of Sea and River Water on Iron,' by Mr. Mallet. Mr. Mallet and Professor E. Davy had formed the committee for investigating, by experiment, the action of sea and river water on iron. Their report has been already noticed in our former No. (1129), Section B. We need only mention here, that Mr. Mallet stated the results to be of the greatest importance to the civil engineer; and he observed that pure oxygen and pure water are both neutral bodies in regard to iron, and only act on it together; that the larger quantity of uncombined or suspended carbon in cast-iron, the more is it acted on by these agents: so much so, that soft Scotch or Irish cast-iron may be used to protect gray or chilled cast-iron from all corrosion.

'On Steam Navigation' by Mr. J. S. Russell. This subject, which had been adjourned from Thursday, was resumed by Mr. Russell. He reverted to the following points, viz. by doubling the three dimensions of the vessel, might be obtained eight times the space, at an expense of only double the power; that the

form of the vessel must be especially attended to,—and that the objections on account of sharpness, which were applicable to sailing vessels, do not apply to steam vessels. He exposed the advantage of making steamers sharp. He did not wish to do away with the fulness, but to leave the fulness in its proper part, and add a sharp prow to full bows. By this means, great advantages might be obtained in the proper storage of the cargo, and proportioning of the load. Breadth and fulness in the centre are absolutely indispensable, and this can only be obtained by lengthening out the extremities. Mr. Russell enlarged upon the subject of power, especially with reference to the boilers. The points especially to be attended to are—extent of surface, thickness, and quality of material, and modes of strengthening. Iron boilers, with copper tubes, possessed considerable advantages; the form of boilers is of little consequence, provided extent of surface be obtained. Mr. Russell was of opinion, that in locomotive steam engines complete perfection had been attained, and that it was useless to expect any great or sudden discovery by which any extensive advantage could be realised.

A discussion was about to arise on Mr. Russell's proposed mode of constructing vessels, but the president said that he was compelled, from the arrangement which had been made in the general committee, to adjourn the Section, which he felt to be the most painful part of the duty which he had to perform.

Previously, however, the secretary read the titles of the communications received, which time would not permit to enter upon more fully.

Mr. Reed, 'On an improved Safety Hook and Bow for Coal Pits.' Mr. Glynn, 'On the Waterworks of Newcastle.' Mr. Wake, 'On a new Paddle Wheel.' Sir Charles Monteith, Bart. 'On a new Tram-road;' also, 'On an improved Kitchen Grate.' Mr. Fourness, 'On Coal-Mine Ventilation.' Mr. Dobson, 'On a Method of making Bricks of every required Colour.'

The following is the deferred paper mentioned in our previous reports, read in Section C, by Mr. Buddle: 'On the Geological Structure of the Newcastle Coal-field.'

Mr. Buddle repeatedly illustrated his paper by references to a large geological map, numerous sections of the strata in the respective collieries, hung upon the walls, and to some papers already printed in the Transactions of the Natural History Society. The history upon which he was about to enter embraced a tract of about seven hundred square miles, comprising the lowest seam of the upper branch of the series, between that series overlaid by the magnesian limestone, and underlain by the mountain limestone. The distance between the two divisions which lie below the Fell Top limestone, was 97½ fathoms, and to the upper part of that he purposed confining himself for the present. The face of the country was a beautiful division of hill and vale—there were no hills of sufficient elevation to give them a mountain character, although they attained an increased elevation as they receded from the sea; and the valleys were in no case so deep as to assume the character of a ravine or glen. The principal heights where the magnesian limestone was to be found were at West Boldon, Willington, Haggerstone Heugh, Killingworth, Kenton, Throckley Fell, Gateshead Fell, Blackburn, Bishop-Auckland, and several other places; and the principal valleys were the Coquet, the Wear, the Blyth, the Tyne, the Team, the Derwent, the Wansbeck, &c. After

showing that the Tyne and the Wear passed through the whole series of seams, so that all the intermediate beds might be traced in their regular order of super-position, Mr. Buddle said that, notwithstanding the enormous destruction of coal by these means, it had not been without its value in having afforded to many the facility of obtaining coal by exposing the seams to view, and thus rendered coal available for the purposes of society ages before much progress had been made in the science of mining; it had also been of service in the working of the coal by means of drifts, driven under the tablelands, and it also facilitated drainage. Mr. Buddle then alluded to a range exactly north and south, which commenced at Newburn and passed by Stella, in a regular concatenation, to Durham. Besides this range there was a vast alluvial deposit, the Wash, which shewed clearly that its character had been effected by the agency of water. Mr. Buddle inclined to the belief that at this point there was an immense tract or basin of coal, which, probably, extended to a great depth, and might reach to a considerable distance under the ocean. Mr. Buddle then shewed, that in a great number of instances there was coal of a very great depth, which possessed only two or three feet of a workable thickness; and, though several of the seams were different from each other, some of them contained all the different varieties. After enumerating the various kinds of sand, argillaceous stone, metal and metalstone, black, blue, and gray, on the line, Mr. Buddle said the grindstone, or seventy fathom post, was seen at various places; at Byker, Backworth, and other places in the neighbourhood, where the magnesian limestone overlies a large extent of the district, and goes to the mouth of the river Tyne; and a small portion of it goes northward at Whitby, as would be afterwards exemplified. Although the magnesian limestone is scarcely seen near the Tyne, the red and yellow sandstones are seen at Tynemouth; and near Killingworth it is quarried for building purposes. The beds of blue clay, ironstone, granite, &c., were evidently deviations from the old rocks on the west-front of the coal-seams. In various parts there was also a description of peat moss, which he scarcely held to be worthy of notice. In the valleys an alluvial deposit, the Wash, prevailed to a considerable extent, and destroyed the coal to an unknown depth; there was no other wash until St. Lawrence colliery, on the river Tyne, was reached. The next deposit of this nature was in the Tees, and it extended from Chester-le-Street to Elswick Colliery, at various depths and widths, but it does not reach the Hetton Seam. At Gateshead Low Fell it passes the lower seam, but not the Beaumont Seam; and at Elswick Colliery it is found again. About two months ago, a quantity of sand came from a fissure in the Beaumont Seam, in Benwell Colliery, but there was no water with it, it was merely moist [a specimen was upon the table, and was of extremely fine grain]. The next deposit of this kind was at Newburn, where its depth was not known; and it was found further up the river, at Ryton Haughs, and also at Prudhoe Haughs, where, no doubt, the river had flowed formerly under the high banks. The deposits terminated further up the river, and it was probable that there was one at the mouth of the Aln. There was one discovered at Framwellgate Moor, which proceeded from thence to Croxdale, and terminated at Ferryhill; but its width there was not accurately known: it was thirty-eight fathoms at Framwellgate Moor.

Here ended the first portion of the paper, after which

Professor Phillips said there was nothing more useful than to view, in a case like the present, the efforts made in the cause of science by the man who, of all others, knew most of the subject. They all intimately knew how many years Mr. Buddle had been connected with the working of mines; and he was now bringing his practical knowledge to correct geological errors, and to suggest geological theories. He then referred to the large map by which Mr. Buddle had illustrated his paper, and expatiated upon the accuracy with which it described the various strata. He (Mr. Phillips) could remember when it was said that there was no such thing as coal below the magnesian limestone; but now it was found that coal was there, and in such abundance as partially to supply the London market. He was glad to find that they had a disposition to discuss that portion of the paper just read in the present section. In another part they would hear of the great dyke, and the manner in which it reached the sea, and its dislocations of the strata. He thought they ought never to separate the contemplation of the surface of the earth from the contemplation of what was going on under the surface.

Professor Sedgwick contended, that the loose sand which had been mentioned was part of the alluvial deposit; and, therefore, it was erroneous to speak of the operation of antiquity upon it. He also observed, that the "wash" spoken of did not follow the line of dislocation. The "wash" was indicative of conformation, but it did not originate with the formation. It might be true that the magnesian limestone, considered as a whole, was unconformable; but in Yorkshire, and other places, it was conformable. It was all accident; and in the lower part of the limestone there were no coal-plants. In Cumberland it assumed a different character, being full of coal-measure plants; and in part of Warwickshire the coal plants were in abundance, and the limestone contained fresh-water shells. With regard to the extent of the coal-basin spoken of by Mr. Buddle, it was most satisfactory to know that there was good coal below the magnesian limestone; indeed, it was physically impossible that good coal should be destroyed by passing under the magnesian limestone. Referring again to the quantity, he said he was rejoiced to hear that there was good reason to hope that so large a field would be excavated in the county, notwithstanding all the difficulties attendant upon the working of it.

The chairman said, the remarks upon the sand were immaterial. He remembered instances of unconsolidated sand in colite, pointed out by Mr. Lumsden. Professor Sedgwick had stated that there were no instances of coal-plants having been found in the lower parts of the magnesian limestone; now, as he could not speak positively to that, he had examined the strata between North Shields and Tynemouth, at Cullercoats, and near the Ninety-fathom dyke, and he found that the strata at the bottom of the magnesian limestone contained a great many impressions of coal plants, and which he expected would have been classed with the new red sandstone.

Professor Phillips said it was a fact; and the circumstance tended to diminish the hardness of the limestone.

Professor Sedgwick replied, that he spoke from the knowledge of many years ago, and not from any thing of a recent appearance.

Mr. Murchison said, the question with him was, Whether the magnesian limestone was to be considered as part of the carboniferous system, or whether they were to adhere to the classification of English geologists, and consider the magnesian limestone as being distinctly separated from it?

Professor Phillips said he did not know of any question more difficult than that of classification. How difficult it was to determine what in living nature constituted a species, and how much more difficult must it be in fossil nature! Fossil bodies were, in many instances, imperfect, and naturalists had, in many instances, given them names when they were so. There was nothing more certain than that there was a striking analogy between the fossil remains in the argillaceous bed of the magnesian limestone, and those found in the carboniferous limestone far below. He thought that they ought to classify by a study of all the circumstances connected with the strata, and not by any one peculiar feature.

The chairman said, with regard to the continental writers, they had as good a right to be guided by the mineral character of the strata as we had. With them, between the lias and the coal, the country was more fully developed than ours, and if they found that there was a zoological reason for drawing their line, it would be hard upon them to charge them with having gone too far, or to think their classification less just than ours. He anticipated the period when a complete reform would take place in our classification.

In the second part of the paper, Mr. Buddle began by mentioning the foreign substances found in the coal; the whin and slip dykes, &c., which miners call troubles. He also described various bands, as shewn in the sections on the walls, explaining their thickness, texture, and variety. The most remarkable of these bands was the Heworth band, so called from its being first discovered there. This band crosses the Tyne at Whitehill Point, through Bewick and Craster's colliery, down to the Low Lights' Dean at North Shields. It is accompanied by a slaty band of a dark gray colour, and before that a coarse coal appears at the bottom; this layer almost always accompanies the Heworth band. The other "detriment," which is only to be described by drawings, contains iron pyrites, called "melts," from their tongue-like shape; sulphate of iron is made from them in the neighbourhood. The paper next proceeds to describe the various dislocations or troubles, known to colliers, such as bags, nips, hitches, &c.; and the injuries in the roofs and pavements of the seams, among which is the patty roof, and the claggy roof, which both occur in the sandstone. Metal roofs are free from the defects which these are liable to, and they vary from a wafer in thickness to several feet, or even fathoms. There were various other descriptions of roofs, but they could only be understood by a reference to the diagrams. Fossil trees were found in almost every seam of coal. The paper gives the names of the different seams of coal, and goes on to describe the accidents, swellings, &c.; these latter are found by undulation in the pavement. Nodules of iron-stone are sometimes very abundant in the pavement. Calcareous spar is also found, which is a sign of deterioration of the coal, which is less bituminous. Mr. Buddle next described the various sections, which can only be accurately understood by a reference to the drawings on the walls. The most important was the High Main Seam. [Mr. Buddle here took the rod,

and gave a brief description of the seams, shewing their situation, depth, value as to marketable quality, their extent, &c., a portion of which he described as the richest of our coal-field; he also pointed out changes in some of the seams, from six feet in height until it became so deteriorated as to be neither marketable nor workable.]

Major Portlock proceeded to read a description of the whin dykes, of which only two or three are of any great magnitude; namely, those at Coally Hill, the Hett, and the Cockfield Fell dykes. That at Coally Hill was used for the repair of roads, and its progress could be traced till it quarried out at Hedworth Burn; it was remarkable for its serpentine undulations. Probably it had been injected in a state of fluid, at a period subsequent to the formation of the coal strata. Of Hett dyke nothing remarkable was narrated. He then described various minor dykes, and slip dykes or faults, with numerous details, examples, and illustrations. They are more numerous than whin dykes, and more destructive to coal. The largest "fault" is the Ninety-fathom dyke, which appears at Cullercoats, from whence it goes to Backworth, and then south-west to Coal-burn, where it makes a turn: at Whitby it depresses the strata 510 feet, whilst at Kellingworth its down-throw is 1200 feet.

Professor Buckland said, he regretted that he was not present to hear the details which were given yesterday; but, from what he had heard that day, he was satisfied of their importance, and he was convinced that if the British Association had produced no other effect than that of inducing Mr. Buddle to bring forward these details, it would have been worthy of their assembling here on this occasion. It was notorious to every man that, during a quarter of a century, the coal district had been under the able direction and inspection of Mr. Buddle, who had most laudably and successfully availed himself of the opportunity of treasuring up those records for the benefit, not only of the present, but of future generations. Such observations were of comparatively small importance when confined to a single vein, but when they were applied to the character of our whole geological structure it was no longer a circumstance of a local kind, but a matter in which the metropolis and the whole British nation were fundamentally concerned. If the coal-field of Newcastle should fail, the comfort and prosperity of the metropolis would be deeply affected, as they all knew that the supply of firewood for fuel was now at an end. But, to return to those sections—the important materials which had been recorded by Mr. Buddle and the able engineers associated with him, was a matter which affected the whole world as well as the British nation, and he (Professor Buckland) was rejoiced beyond measure that it had been brought forward. He then dwelt upon the importance of the study of mining, not as it regarded the production of fuel merely, but as it operated in the preservation of human life. In future times, posterity would bless his memory for having preserved those records of mines, and he hoped their preservation would be an example which would be followed, and by which the lives of thousands and tens of thousands would be saved; and he further hoped, that a committee would be established which should have its origin in that Association, to gather up those valuable facts, and set them before the whole world, wherever humanity existed. The work appeared to him to be fit for publication; but this Association

did not publish works in detail. There were, however, the Transactions of the Natural History Society which were open to him, and that paper would constitute an example which every miner would follow as his polar star in his philosophical researches.

Professor Sedgwick fully concurred with his friend, Professor Buckland, in the general commendations which he had bestowed upon these records, and he begged to express his hearty thanks, in the name of the geologists of England, for the labours of Mr. Buddle. His (Professor Sedgwick's) object in rising was to bring before the body some information which, as yet, they did not know. One topic alluded to by his friend, Professor Buckland, was the exhaustion of those mineral riches; and, great as they were, if England continued to be a consuming country, which he hoped it would, time would exhaust the whole of them; and, with this view, the adoption of any thing which would tend to economise them would be valuable. A few years ago, as it was mentioned yesterday, they hardly knew that any coal was worked under the magnesian limestone, and now they knew that it was worked very much; but what they did not know was, that lately, borings had been going on at Hartlepool through a superficial covering, and coal had been found within eight miles of Hartlepool to the amount, perhaps, of tens of thousands of tons, of which he hoped the details would soon be laid before them.—The sections were now ready for their inspection. The section was not through the magnesian limestone, but it penetrated to some rubbish which rested upon it. He had no further communication to make upon it; he had given his information, he had thrown the ball down before them, and they could do what they pleased with it.

Mr. De la Beche began his observations by noticing the seams of coal, as pointed out by Mr. Buddle, and the manner of their accumulation. It was impossible to look at those sections and not see that the manner of their accumulation must have been most variable. How many thought that those sections were accumulated by drift, others by growth, and others by the sinking and deposit of sands! Adolphe Brogniart, on the other hand, says that these coal sections may be regarded as bogs or peat mosses. What could the meeting, with these sections before it, say of their accumulation? It was not long since in one of his searches he found some sigillaria about thirteen feet high, which could not have drifted to the position they were in, and afforded evidence of the growth of vegetable substance where he found them. Could they then infer that these sigillaria had grown, and that a certain change had taken place which had gradually submerged them? He inclined to think that they had sunk down to the place where they were found; but there was no apparent evidence that they had been drifted far. When they looked at a bog or a fen they would naturally suppose that there was not enough of matter to produce such an accumulation; but let them go to the tropics and see the immense spaces of sand there, containing all sorts of things. From that they were to infer that these beds had grown, sunk down, and some great change come over them to produce their present form.

Professor Phillips said the last question was by no means the only question on that subject; the origin of coal was a magnificent problem. It might be caused by the composition of plants, the result of which was yet traceable, and for which they were indebted to one of the local

secretaries of this Association, Mr. William Hutton. It was not impossible that in the result they should finally know some of the causes of coal, because they would know of what it is composed. In the next place, it was important to know whether the origin was by drifting or by growing; but that could not be ascertained by seeing a few plants amongst a few rocks. He had seen many cases where the conclusion of growing could not be adopted, especially where the sections were from a part of an inch to thirty feet in thickness. Now this was important, as being evidence of the plants rather having drifted to, than grown upon, the spot; and especially when they had fifty beds or more varying in substance as they did in thickness. The sandstone, and other materials which alternated with them, shewed that there must have been interpositions of sand and water, and, since the alternations were so frequent, he rather preferred the opinion that these accumulations were caused by the drifting of water. Professor Phillips here referred to a section which, from its formation, he thought confirmed this view of the subject. He thought also the structure of the coal was in his favour, both as shewn by the operation of the whin dykes and the mixture of the various substances with the coal.

The chairman said he was disposed to believe that when Mr. De la Beche proposed the question he was more desirous of exciting discussion than of wishing it to be understood that that was his opinion on the subject. It was by no means improbable that the accumulations might have come as he had stated, but he (the chairman) thought that the idea must yield to the supposition that they were fossils borne away by water, sunk, and covered up by other accumulations. The stems of sigillaria, which were at first hollow, were found perfectly vertical, and the hollows filled up with sand and mud, and these, he conceived, went down with their roots first and fastened in the soil, and became surrounded with other matter. This he preferred to the idea of their having been submerged. Might it not be, that in this state they became coal, with this bark or crust upon them which had grown round them, and that when the coal was worked out this bark or cylinder of sandstone was not sufficient to hold it up, and hence it fell down from the roof, and occasioned repeated accidents to human life?

Mr. Buddle begged to state a few facts which would not be unimportant for the consideration of the Section. He would draw attention to a single district in which he found all the sigillaria erect, and, at the same time, all the calamite tribe were horizontal; and he thought that this confirmed Mr. Phillips's view of the case. In the floating trunks of trees, with masses of roots attached to them, they naturally assumed a vertical position, or at least an angle, and, when they stick in the ground, they would naturally assume a vertical position. He had himself seen, in Backworth colliery, the trunks of three trees, with roots, standing in that manner [Mr. Buddle shewed a drawing]; whilst one trunk, which had no root, was lying in a horizontal position. His opinion was, that the sigillaria had floated there—had taken a position in the soft stone, and became embedded; and the calamites the same way, although they came in an opposite direction.

Mr. De la Beche explained that it was Mr. Brogniart's opinion, as laid down in his last published volume, and not any opinion of his own, which he expressed; he was merely asking if that were right. The explanations of

Professor Phillips and Mr. Buddle were perfectly feasible.

Dr. Buckland said, there was one fact which appeared to him to be decisive that Professor Phillips and Mr. Buddle were right in their opinions. This sigillaria was found in a vertical position, and all the others were not; and, though scales had been found on the barks of the trees, in no instance was there a leaf found. Now, the conclusion upon his mind was, that if these trees had grown, and sunk down, and become embedded, it was impossible but that the last of the leaves must have been found buried by the accumulation of the silt, sand, and mud. That there were no leaves found was consistent with the trunks being drifted by water; but if they had grown on the spot, the leaves must have been there.

Mr. Buddle, in reply to a question, observed, that there was a great portion of the coal in the coal-field which could not be worked at a great depth; the machinery would be so costly, and so much would have to be left in the pillar to sustain the weight above, that it would not be worth the cost of working; besides, at these great depths, the coal was sometimes so friable from the pressure, as not to be marketable when it was worked, and, therefore, it was impossible to calculate the amount of our grand magazine of coal. The deeper they went, of course they were still the hotter, and, if they could go two miles deep, they would be in a heat equal to boiling water.

Contrary to our usual plan, we have reserved our notice of the excursions on Friday, in order to give precedence to the business of the Sections. We now with pleasure recur to them.

On Friday morning, two country expeditions emanated from the meeting—the one geological, and the other mechanical. We attached ourselves to the former, and enjoyed one of the most original and greatest treats which the week afforded. At seven o'clock, two steamers started from the quay for Tynemouth, which they reached between eight and nine, and there disembarked nearly two hundred members; among whom were the Marquess of Northampton, Professor Ehrenberg, Mr. Bigge, and, above all, Mr. Sedgwick, who headed the excursion. At the Barracks, a plentiful breakfast was found ready for the company; after partaking of which, some visited the fine ruins of the priory, and others enjoyed the picturesque scenery and beautiful weather, in attendance upon the geological elucidation of this interesting district, for which they were about to be indebted to Mr. Sedgwick.

The scene was quite of an extraordinary character. The day was all sunshine, and the towns and villages around North Shields, Tynemouth, Cullercoats, &c. &c. poured out their population—men, women, and children in hundreds—to form part of the crowd which accompanied the steps of their numerous visitors. The latter were variously and curiously employed. Here picking up specimens of conchology—there the minute vegetation of the ocean, and the almost invisible tribes of living creatures which cover them—elsewhere mineralogists busily at work; and nearly every one engaged in some favourite pursuit. At length, however, all were united, with their attention directed to one object, when Mr. Sedgwick, taking his station on a projecting rock which looked towards the sea, commenced his explanation of the geological strata that composed the adjacent country.

We never witnessed a more animated or

more animating scene. The multitude of persons of all classes and ages, hanging with fixed admiration on the glowing periods of the lecturer, brought forcibly to the imagination the idea of Peter the Hermit preaching the Crusade. To speak without exaggeration, the effect was hardly less potent than what is ascribed to that religious phenomenon. Mr. Sedgwick was evidently deeply excited by the occasion; and no wonder, for every thing tended to exalt the mind. The splendour of the heavens, where all was clear, warm, and exhilarating; the rolling of the gentle ocean below, with the wave breaking in music on the shore; the charms of the scenery, cliff, promontory, bay, the distance studded with innumerable sails; and the living tide of human beings listening to the instruction of the teacher with a quiet earnestness beyond our ability to paint, were enough to make an ordinary man eloquent. What, then, was to be expected from a Sedgwick! He must have been heard with all the accessories around him to which we have alluded, in order to have an idea of the enthusiasm produced. Ever singularly impressive in his addresses, where the higher and nobler emotions have way, he now surpassed himself, adapting his language and style to the popular intelligence, and bursting out with floods of eloquence; glancing from the mechanism of nature, whilst he laid open the bosom of the earth, into impassioned appeals to the Creator of all,—an advice at once holy and striking, as it sprung from every object around, and converged the soul of the assembly to their eternal region.

We will not trouble our readers with the geological details from the basaltic dyke, through the magnesian strata to the great coal deposits, and the termination of the latter in limestone towards the north. The professor pointed out the leading features of all these, and shewed where they overlaid or alternated with each other, where one interposed and another bounded, and traced the probable causes of the phenomena, which were on this coast so distinctly obvious to the sight. At the lime quarry the quarriers blasted the rock; and out of the *débris* a number of examples were obtained of ichthyological remains, which were carried off. These furnished new topics for illustration; and, at the close of his fourth address, Mr. S. was honoured with three cheers by the mass of population whom he had so much delighted. Sure we are that the good effects of this day, not only intellectual but moral, will not pass away from the neighbourhood for many a long year.

The members re-embarked at Tynemouth and returned to Newcastle; some laden with various specimens, all impressed with the fervent instruction and intense gratification they had received.

The other excursion from the Mechanical Section was directed to the opening of the Durham Junction Railway, the great feature of which is, that it will bring coals from the North Durham coal-field, to be shipped in the port of the Tyne. A bridge thrown over the Wear, at Penche, near to which it branches off from the Stanhope and Tyne Railway, and which is considered to be a surprising work of art, was another object of attraction. The directors had a steam-boat to convey the party to South Shields, and the railway procession consisted of two trains, and the company in the carriages amounted to 400 persons. All the mountains of ballast which command a view of the railway were covered with spectators, the South Shields band playing the national air, flags waving,

cannons firing, and some thousand voices cheering the departure of the trains. After a very short passage, they arrived at the Victoria bridge. The opinions expressed by the numerous scientific gentlemen present respecting this stupendous work were those of unqualified approbation. It has been erected at a cost of about 35,000*l.* and consists of four main arches, respectively of the spans of 160, 144, and 100 feet. Of these arches, three are aqueductal, being thrown over the valley to obtain the proper railway level, and there are besides six smaller arches inserted in the approaches or wing falls, to lighten the masonry and add unity to the design. The length of the entire bridge is 810 feet, and its width, within the parapet walls, 21 feet, and there is a double line of railway over it, with an excellent flagged causeway on each side for foot passengers. On their return, there were attached to the trains about 100 wagons laden with coals, from Black Boy Pit, the property of the Marquess of Londonderry. We regret to add, that a serious accident, which had nearly been attended with fatal consequences, occurred from the engine of the second train coming in contact with the last carriage of the first train. One gentleman fractured his leg; and several others were severely injured. The trains arrived at Shields without any further obstruction, and the party returned in the steamer to Newcastle, after partaking of a cold collation provided by the directors.

On Saturday, the hospitalities of the week were magnificently closed, by a *déjeûner* at Ravensworth Castle, which, if the general and private entertainments given by Newcastle to the Association surpassed any of the preceding meetings, was indeed a fitting finale. Some five hundred persons were assembled in this noble mansion, and a constant succession of every luxury and delicacy covered the tables as they arrived in parties from their sections, committees, and other engagements. The suite of rooms is splendid; and the prospect of the terrace and fine park from the windows, one of the richest of truly English scenery. The attentions of Mr. T. Liddell, and other branches of the noble family, were not the least pleasurable circumstances of the entertainment, where philosophy and fashion held a united revel in such a manner as to shew that philosophy may indulge in these enjoyments without compromising its wisdom, and fashion increase them by taking a measure above the common frivolities of gay life.

In the evening, the closing meeting took place at the Central Exchange, which was again crowded, both on the platform and throughout its wide area. It is true that this partakes rather of the character of an exhibition of the *lions* of the Association; but, with all its complimentariness (and we are glad that has somewhat abated, though there is still more than sufficient of *plastering*, as some of the townsfolk not inappropriately called it; yet, when we consider that it affords a gratification to the persons and their families, who have done so much to render the sojourn among them agreeable), it is, after all, a matter that may be looked at with a kindly eye, without provoking the satire of criticism.

The Marquess of Northampton rose amidst loud applause, and after alluding to the pain which he had felt in hearing the science to which he was most attached—the science of Geology—accused of being inimical to religion [an accusation so weak and ignorant as hardly to deserve notice] adverted to the hospitable reception which the Association had experi-

enced in Newcastle, and moved a vote of thanks to the mayor and corporation. He had been the guest of the mayor, and found in the house of his worship a most agreeable home. He had, therefore, peculiar pleasure in making the motion.

Professor Whewell (who had also been the guest of the mayor) seconded the motion. In no town had the Association met, where all difficulties were removed, and all facilities promoted, so effectually as in Newcastle.

The motion having been carried by acclamation, the right worshipful the mayor (Dr. Headlam) acknowledged the honour, and was warmly cheered.

Sir Charles Lemon, moved a vote of thanks to the literary and scientific associations of the town, for the valuable assistance which they had afforded to the Association. The Literary and Philosophical Society of Newcastle was one of the most ancient institutions of the kind in the country, and he was glad to find that it was in so flourishing a condition.

Dr. Buckland seconded the motion, and referred in terms of eulogy to the venerable William Turner, the founder of the Literary and Philosophical Society, and the foster-father of the institutions which had sprung up in connexion therewith. Twenty-five years ago, he (Dr. Buckland) was in Newcastle, and the Literary and Philosophical Society was the only institution of a literary or scientific character in the town; but, in subsequent years, many other societies had sprung up. It was in the recollection of persons now living, that before any of these societies existed in Newcastle, cock-fighting, and bull and bear-baiting, were the recreations of the inhabitants; but in this latter day, how great the change! In the former period, Newcastle was chiefly famous as the centre whence radiated physical heat, and for its transcendent grindstones, which was celebrated from China to Peru; but now, it gave out to afar mental light and heat, and was an intellectual whetstone for the minds of men. Dr. Buckland proceeded to refer to the honour reflected upon Newcastle by her illustrious sons, Lords Eldon and Stowell, and related one or two anecdotes of the former noble lord. In a letter written by Lord Eldon, he stated, that in 1766, on leaving school, he travelled to London in a *fly*, which performed the journey in three days and two nights. On this vehicle was painted the motto, "*Sat cito, si sat bene!*" An elderly gentleman was one of young Scott's fellow-travellers, and requested the driver to stop at a certain inn on the road, where, two years before, he had forgot to pay the chambermaid. The driver complied with the request, and, on stopping at the inn, the old gentleman said to the girl, "My dear, I forgot to pay thee, two years ago, what was justly thy due: there is sixpence for thee!" The future lord chancellor thereupon observed to the elderly gentleman, "Friend, thou hast neither attended to the *sat cito*, nor the *sat bene!*" The words of the motto made a strong impression on the youthful mind of Lord Eldon; and when, in after life, he was censured for the slowness of his proceedings, his consolation was, "*Sat cito, si sat bene!*" Lady Sidmouth had told him (Dr. Buckland) that, on her noble father's last visit to the north, he shewed her the inn at Boroughbridge, at which he stopped on his road to college, when his father used to send him off on a pony to Oxford, with three guineas in his pocket to bear his expenses. He was then so shy, that he did not like to go into the great inns by himself, and little thought he should after-

wards pass along the same road in his carriage, a peer of the realm. On one occasion, he was overtaken by a storm, and drew up with his pony in a plantation by the road side, where he cried so bitterly, that an old farmer heard him, and kindly took him into his house.

The motion having been adopted, Professor Phillips moved a vote of thanks to the local officers of the Association, and spoke in high praise of the exertions of Charles John Bigge, Esq., Professor Johnstone, William Hutton, Esq., and other gentlemen.

Mr. Bailey seconded the motion; and it was carried unanimously.

Thanks were then moved and carried to the foreigners who had honoured the meeting with their presence, to the Duke of Northumberland, and the Bishop of Durham.

The following gentlemen then read the titles of the papers which had been read at their respective sections, namely,—Sir John Herschel, Mathematics; Professor Whewell, Chemistry; Mr. Lyell, Geology and Geography; Dr. Yellöley, Medical Science; Col. Sykes, Statistics; Professor Babbage, Mechanical Science; in Zoology and Botany, Sir Wm. Jardine caused some merriment by stating that the notes of that Section were unfortunately locked up.

Having brought our report of this meeting to a close, we may notice that, like a comet, it had a tail, and of considerable dimensions, partly homogeneous, and partly accidental or tacked to.

One of the most proper of the appendages was the meeting, on Monday, of the Natural History Society of Newcastle, and the dinner which ensued, at which the great majority of the stranger-visitors, who had received so much kindness and hospitality at the hands of the inhabitants, felt it to be a pleasant duty to be present.

On the same day there was a Geological excursion to the Marsden Rocks, and the magnesian limestone formation, on the southern side of the river; and, also, another to the Allenhead lead-mines, which were seen and explored with much gratification.

We should mention, also, as portion of this history, that the phrenologists again made a muster on behalf of their favourite pursuit; and, in spite of Eugene Aram's skull* affair, shewed stout hearts as well as **ck heads. At this first move since the Dublin Essay,—

Professor Gregory, of Glasgow, was called to the chair; and a series of resolutions to attach a Section of Phrenology, if possible, to the meetings of the Association, were carried. A provisional committee was appointed to prepare laws for the new association; and it was

* Since our account of this matter, the following has appeared in the Newcastle Journals:—"It will be recollected, that at the late meeting of the British Association in this town, a skull was produced, purporting to be that of Eugene Aram, who was condemned almost a century ago, for the murder of Daniel Clark, at Knarborough. Some doubts were thrown out, when the skull was brought under notice, as to its having really belonged to the murderer, and the subject has occasioned much discussion since. If the following particulars, which have been sent to us by a correspondent at Northallerton, be well founded, they seem to disprove the identity of the skull with Eugene Aram. 'It is understood by the oldest inhabitants at Northallerton, that the skull and some of the bones of this ill-fated self, taught genius were collected by a friend of the family, at the request of Elizabeth, second daughter of Eugene Aram, and conveyed to her at Northallerton, where she resided; and, by the kind consent of the Rev. R. Pigott, then vicar of that place, they were safely deposited in the churchyard, a little to the north of the church, and strictly watched by the sexton for some months, to see that they were not disturbed. This said Elizabeth afterwards married William York, a currier, at Northallerton, a son of Mr. Barnett York, by whom she had a family; she died about the year 1800.'

decided that the first meeting should be held at Birmingham, next year.

Mr. Hewett Watson, the editor of the "Phrenological Journal," delivered an address 'On the Present State and Prospects of Phrenology.' The objections to phrenology, founded on its supposed rejection by scientific and medical men (he observed), were now, at least, inapplicable, inasmuch as a very large proportion of phrenologists were medical men, and there were more societies for the cultivation of phrenology than for that of any other science. Mr. Watson then briefly explained and defended the science of phrenology, and illustrated his statements with skulls of various nations, and with casts of four heads:—1st, the head of an utter idiot, who could barely be regarded as a conscious being; 2d, the head of a cunning idiot; 3d, the head of Greenacre; and, 4th, the head of Spurzheim; presenting a progressive improvement in craniological development, and the difference between the heads of Greenacre and Spurzheim being most marked and striking.

Mr. Morrison, of the Newcastle School of Medicine, came forward as a teacher of anatomy to declare, that in the whole course of his investigations, he had never met with one fact at variance with phrenology, but abundant evidence in confirmation of its truth.

Dr. Reid, of Edinburgh, the gentleman whose name is familiar to the public in connexion with the ventilation of the House of Commons, next addressed the meeting, and stated that he had studied phrenology with a prejudice against it, but rose from the study a confirmed believer.

Mr. Simpson, of Edinburgh, followed Dr. Reid as an advocate of phrenology; and was in turn followed by Mr. Robert Owen and Mr. John Fife.

Mr. Logan detailed a remarkable case of furious insanity, cured by Sir W. Ellis, who, observing that the previous treatment had been exactly opposed to that indicated by the phrenological development of the patient, adopted a different plan, and effected a cure in a few months, after the disease had resisted the unphrenological treatment for a year and a half.

Professor Gregory directed attention to the peculiarities of national character, and described particularly that of the negro. Dr. G. contended, and supported his opinion by specimens of negro heads, and the history of a benevolent negro, a cast of whose head (from the Museum of the Phrenological Society) was exhibited, that there were different races of negroes, some of whom were, morally and intellectually, equal to Europeans. He also expressed his opinion, that the capabilities of the ordinary negro, although not equal to the European standard, have been greatly underrated.

A gentleman noticed, that the negro, then in Newcastle with Capt. Washington, exhibited a very fine development, and had shewn great intellect.

Mr. R. Carlisle stated, that after careful study, he had found phrenology to be in perfect accordance with the Bible.

Thanks were unanimously voted to the chairman, and the meeting broke up.

The next addendum was a meeting on the subject of National Education, at which Dr. Taylor and Mr. Simpson took prominent parts, and this important subject was as well discussed as it could be in a popular assembly.

Mr. Simpson lectured on education at Sunderland.

Another novelty was, the proposal for an *Aborigines Protection Society*. The chief speakers were Mr. Montgomery Martin, author

of the "History of the British Colonies," Mr. Stowell, the Rev. Dr. Pye Smith, and Mr. George Thompson.

A supplement to the "Tyne Mercury" has given a long report of this meeting.

The opening of a bazar for charitable purposes was another feature of the week: the Picture Gallery, so creditable to the artists of this part of the country, Mr. Lough and his glorious sculptures being alone sufficient to crown it with immortal fame; the ascent of Mr. Brown and his balloon; and last, an invitation (placard) to "worship with the religious Society of Friends," which we did not accept, were all among the memorabilia of the occasion.

The following is no bad finale:—

"*British Association*.—Mr. Small has received instructions to offer for sale by auction, on Thursday, the 20th instant, at eleven o'clock in the forenoon, at the Academy of Arts, Blackett Street, Newcastle, the various articles used for decorations and culinary purposes, during the Meeting of the British Association, comprising upwards of ten thousand yards of red and white calico, of very superior fabric; metal boilers, tin kettles, large dripping-pans, brushes, knives and forks, mats, baize, Union Jack flags, long and short brushes, knife boxes, fire-irons, and various other articles of utility; several eighteen-gallon casks. The whole having been made for the occasion, are in the best possible condition. The calico will be arranged in convenient lots to suit various purchasers.

"*Royal Arcade, 13th September, 1836.*"

ELECTRICAL SOCIETY.

TUESDAY, Sept. 18th.—Read a paper 'On the different Phenomena of Electricity at Rest and Electricity in Motion,' by Mr. C. V. Walker; the object of which was to disprove the testimony brought forward in a former paper read before the Society in favour of the existence of homogeneous attraction, and not repulsion, between the particles of electricity. Mr. Walker considered that the important element motion had been overlooked in the experiments in favour of the hypothesis of homogeneous attraction, that the result—namely, the convergence of two streams of electricity passing from different points to a common destination—belonged to electrodynamics, the laws and phenomena of which are entirely distinct from electrostatics, and that homogeneous attraction was not a property of "electricity *per se*, but of electricity in motion."—Read, also, a paper entitled 'An Attempt to prove Electric Phenomena to be dependent upon Vibration, from three Experiments of Prof. Moll,' by Mr. Pollock, deducing further proofs from the phenomena of thermo-electricity in support of his former communications on the theory of vibration, fully reported in *Literary Gazette*, Nos. 1088 and 1112. One of the experiments detailed in the present paper will suffice to shew the nature of the evidence deduced. In the thermo-electric apparatus, composed of antimony and copper, the former metal is one of the worst conductors both of heat and electricity, and the latter one of the best. Heat being applied to the point of junction of these two dissimilar metals, should pass, according to the law of the transference of heat by communication, along the best conductor, the copper, and enter the worst conductor, the antimony, generating a current along the copper from the heated to the cool part of the arrangement. The very reverse of this is true; the current actually

passes from the worst into the better conductor. The theory of vibration involves this action. The effects of the expansion attendant upon the application of heat would be felt at a distance before the heat itself could possibly have travelled thither. The expansion must cause an absorption of heat or of the "fluid of the theory," which, according to the views of Mr. Pollock, is the cause of the phenomena—heat, light, electricity, magnetism, &c. Is, then, Mr. Pollock asks, the heat required by the expansion supplied entirely by the lamp, or is it derived from some other additional source? If the lamp furnishes the only supply, then the theory of vibration tumbles to the ground: if not, then is that theory established in all its power. The lamp being the only source of heat, the current ought to pass along the copper to the opposite point of the junction of the metals and into the antimony; but, as before observed, it passes from the antimony at that point, where it is impossible the heat of the lamp can have produced any direct influence. Further, it is agreed by nearly all electricians, that all bodies contain either one or two fluids, and that, upon the disturbance of equilibrium, electrical phenomena are manifested. Can heat, therefore, be applied to this thermo-electric apparatus, and expansion take place without the equilibrium of the fluid, previously existing in it, being disturbed, and electrical phenomena produced? Certainly not; and, moreover, the electric effect ceases when the heat has entered the copper and equally diffused itself—equilibrium being restored. This proves the electric phenomena, the result of the influence of the heat upon the fluid previously existing in the apparatus disturbing its equilibrium, and not of its direct admission: it also proves vibration, or matter undergoing stages of alternate expansion and contraction, according as the fluid is admitted or emitted; and it is scarcely possible to avoid the conclusion, that what is termed the latent heat of bodies and their electric fluid are identical. It is of the first importance, if electricity be dependent upon the vibration of matter, to be satisfied of the truth of that theory, and to further investigate. Mr. Pollock proceeds to state, that the nature of force and resistance accord strictly with the theory; but by it the electric current cannot be of uniform velocity. And the more the properties of matter are examined, the stronger is the proof that no such current exists. Unequal velocity attendant upon motion is a test of vibration. This unequal velocity is traced in the forking of lightning, and, also, in the branching or forking of the electric spark, caused by the power the fluid possesses, to overcome the resistance of the medium by accumulated self-repulsive action. This unequal velocity is traced in Newton's "Fits of Reflection and Transmission," attendant upon the progress of light, caused by the force of the ray, and the resistance of the transparent medium. It is also traced in the elevation and depression of the wave, of the undulatory theory of light, caused by the oscillation, generating the undulation, and by the resistance of the ether. And this unequal velocity is likewise traced in the motions of the bodies of the solar system, manifesting the action of varying forces, generating elliptical, not circular orbits. A circular orbit can only exist upon the supposition of unvarying forces, which implies an impossibility. The supposition of the possibility of a current of uniform velocity, Mr. Pollock considers the greatest obstacle to the advancement of electrical science, and that its removal would lead to an explanation of all electrical phenomena.

FINE ARTS.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

Royal Hunt: the meeting of Her Majesty's Stag Hounds on Ascot Heath. Engraved by F. Bromley, from the original Picture painted by F. Grant, Esq. for the Earl of Chesterfield, as Master of the Stag-hounds. Hodgson and Graves.

Our admiration of this extraordinary production, its numerous objects, their skilful arrangement, and the beauty of its execution throughout, will be found in No. 1061 of the *Literary Gazette*, when the picture was exhibited at the Royal Academy in 1837; and we are much gratified by seeing it thus ably perpetuated by the hand of the engraver. The print is accompanied by a "Key to the Royal Hunt," by Nimrod, who has given some very lively sketches of the characters it contains in a style quite *con amore* with his favourite pursuit. There are, to be sure, a few drawbacks to the noble sport, when some fall to rise again, some to rise no more. In the ardour of his eulogium, we are inclined to think that Nimrod has misquoted the lines of a hunting song, which, if our memory has not failed us, run thus:—

"A pack of such hounds, and a set of such men,
It's a chance if you meet with the like o'er again.
Had Diana been there, she'd been pleased to the life,
And one of these lads got a goddess for wife."

But our author's version of the song goes to say—

"And many a lad got a goddess to wife."

Now, this may be rhyme, but it is any thing but reason; and we think the chaste goddess is both libelled and scandalised, unless some ingenious advocate should plead, that, under the general idea of the sex, Nimrod designated the whole of "Dian's train" goddesses. But a truce with such trifles; though a chimney-corner man, we can allow for the speed of a writer when mounted on his favourite hobby, and sympathise with his feelings, except in the instance of laming twelve out of fourteen hunters, and the senseless sport of steeple-chase, at the expense of life, in that noble animal the horse. We speak as a chimney-corner man, and we are much mistaken if Nimrod does not sometimes feel as we do; yet, it must be owned that his lively sketches of character, and the anecdotes connected with them, give an interest to the subject with which they are in such good keeping.

The Interior of Westminster Abbey during the Coronation of Her Most Gracious Majesty Victoria. Engraved by G. Saunders, from a Drawing, made on the Spot, by A. Newcomb. M'Lean.

We are a sight-seeing people! but what son or daughter of Adam, who has an atom of curiosity, is not? and the print under notice will, in some degree, gratify those who were unable to witness the ceremony: to those who have, it will bring many pleasant associations connected with the sight. The preparations before, and the gratulations after, the adventurous struggle, and the ardent gaze, will occupy the mind, whenever, and wheresoever, this pictorial document shall find a place.

ORIGINAL POETRY.

A CONCEIT.

Eros and Anteros one day went straying
Thro' the green meadows, culling summer daisies;
Brotherlike, turning round one another, playing
By the fair waters, and in the woodland mazes.

ABSENCE, that desolating maid, came after;
All the long day she followed to betray them:
Worn out, the boys, with sporting and with laughter,
Sleeping, she glided to their side, to slay them.

Black juice of nightshade poured she from her vial;
Anteros gasped, but made no moan in dying;
Eros, uprising, waited not the trial,
Fled through the plain, her cruelty defying.
Absence, contented with her work of slaughter,
Buried her victim, strewing poppies o'er him:
Green is his grave, beside the running water;
But never a mourner cometh to deplore him.
H. I. M.

SONNET.

Poor heart, full oft by passion madly tost,
Since first thy strange mysterious pulse began;
Full oft condemn'd to throb beneath the ban
Of blighted hope, and gen'rous purpose crost:
Ah, say, where now the fond illusive boast
That thrill'd the current of thy youthful blood,
Foretasting glory thron'd upon the flood
Of Life's rough tide? For ever, ever lost!
Yet thine, remember, is a narrow date—
A lessening span, by Time's unceasing wheel
(E'en while thou broadest o'er thy sullen fate)
Devour'd apace. Then strive to emulate
The Spartan virtue. Throes thou needs must feel,
Serenely bear, or in thy core conceal.

T. D. E.

DRAMA.

Covent-Garden.—Mr. Macready has again commenced his arduous undertaking in the cause of the drama and dramatic literature, and if we may take the enthusiasm which has been displayed during the opening week as a fair criterion, the public are with him; and, having overcome the difficulties incidental to a first campaign, his second season will be one of sufficient success to repay him for his serious losses, which are not to be considered only in a pecuniary point of view, but as a sacrifice to that profession of which he is one of the brightest ornaments. Previous to the tragedy, Mr. Macready was loudly called for; and, on coming forward, returned thanks in a neat speech, for, as he said, the unexpected honour, at the same time promising to endeavour to deserve a continuation of public support, by avoiding every thing that should tend to degrade the drama, and by keeping perfect good faith. The opening play was *Coriolanus*, produced with the same attention to detail which elicited so much praise last season. There are several alterations, we do not think improvements—least of all, the substitution of Mr. Vandenhoff for Mr. Macready, in the part of *Caius Marcius*. Many scenes in this play are so forced upon our recollection, that we missed them sadly in the former gentleman's conception of the part. The other changes are of little moment.

On Wednesday, *Cymbeline* was the play. Where was Mr. Macready when the part of *Posthumus Leonatus* was intrusted to Mr. Phelps, than whose performance nothing could be worse? No one will say that Mr. Macready has not given other actors a fair chance; but finding, as he must, that there is no head to the excellent body, and that the public shew, by the full houses on the nights he plays, that he is the wanting member, we think he would

be quite acquitted of the charge of thrusting himself forward.

On Thursday, a new farce, called *Brown, Jones, and Robinson*, met with a very equivocal reception, and we presume these worthies will be immediately ordered off.

New Strand Theatre.—A continuation of *The Adventures of Robert Macaire*, with the title of *Jacques Strop*, was produced here on Monday. It met with a rather qualified success, for it is very long and generally heavy. It served, however, as a capital set-off for *The Road of Life*, which continues its attraction; and, were it better known, would be a great draw, for it is decidedly one of the best quizzes we ever witnessed.

VARIETIES.

Hippius Hippius.—The first number of a work in the style of the "Pickwick Papers," with this title, is before us; it is intended as a means for publishing the graphic cuts left by poor Seymour, the caricaturist. Without assigning to him that elevated place as an artist, which is given to him in the author's advertisement, namely, that he was "one of the greatest artists who, since the days of Hogarth, has employed the pencil to insinuate a moral, whilst calling into play a smile"—it must be admitted that he very successfully embodied the latter part of the quotation.

On dit.—Three of the six paintings by the old masters, lately presented to the National Gallery, are of such a character, it is said, that they can never be hung in that establishment unless with their backs to the public.

LITERARY NOVELTIES.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

An Essay on Probabilities; and on their Application to Life Contingencies and Insurance Offices, by A. De Morgan (forming Vol. CVII. of Dr. Lardner's "Cabinet Cyclopædia.") 2cap, 8vo. 6s.—Poems, by S. Rogers. New Edition, 12mo. 5s.—Explanations of the Prophecies, by J. Tyso, 8vo. 7s. 6d.—J. Hawshaw's Reminiscences of South America, 2cap, 5s. 6d.—F. Wayland on Human Responsibility, 12mo. 3s. 6d.—Examination of Phrenology, by T. Sewall, M.D., 15mo. 3s.—Stewart's Stable Annals, Second Edition, 1cap, 7s. 6d.—A System of Practical Surgery, by J. Lizars, 8vo. 10s. 6d.—Noble's Appeal on behalf of the Eternal World, post 8vo. 9s.—Lectures on Ecclesiasties, by R. Wardlaw, D.D., Second Edition, 2 vols. 12mo. 10s.—Tables for Calculating Grain, by D. Henderson, 8vo. 6s.—Penn's Supplemental Annotations to the Book of the New Covenant, 8vo. 5s.—The Phenomena and Order of the Solar System, by J. P. Nichol, L.L.D., post 8vo. 7s. 6d.—Annual of British Landscape Scenery, 1839, 8vo. 12s.—Oracle of Rural Life, an Almanac for Country Gents, 1839, 2s. 6d.—The German Scholar's Hand-Book, 1s.—A Treatise on the Ear, by G. Pucher, 8vo. 10s. 6d.—Anatomical Tables, by T. Nunneley, 12mo. 4s. 6d.—Memoirs of the Beauties of the Court of Charles the Second, Second Edition, imperial 8vo. 2l. 5s.—Selections from Pindar, with English Notes, by the Rev. W. G. Cookeley, M.A., 8vo. 5s.

METEOROLOGICAL JOURNAL, 1838.

September.	Thermometer.	Barometer.
Thursday... 20	From 53 to 65	29.77 stationary
Friday... 21	... 54 to 69	29.77 ... 29.61
Saturday... 22	... 52 ... 63	29.92 ... 29.83
Sunday... 23	... 47 ... 66	29.96 ... 29.94
Monday... 24	... 41.5 ... 55	29.93 ... 29.74
Tuesday... 25	... 50 ... 55	29.72 ... 29.78
Wednesday 26	... 44.5 ... 60	29.97 ... 29.90

Winds, S.W. and N.E.
Except the 20th and 23d, generally cloudy, with rain on the 23d and two following days; lightning in the S.E. on the evening of the 21st.
Rain fallen, 7 of an inch.
Edmonton. CHARLES HENRY ADAMS.
Latitude... 51° 37' 32" N.
Longitude... 3 51 W. of Greenwich.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

☆ To Correspondents, &c.—At this season of the year, it is most expedient that all communications for the *Literary Gazette* should be sent as early as possible in the week.

☆ L.—We may have given a wrong title to the celestial phenomenon the 16th, but we ourselves distinctly saw a lunar arch in the heavens on that evening.

ADVERTISEMENTS,

Connected with Literature and the Arts.

KING'S COLLEGE, LONDON.

SENIOR DEPARTMENT.—The Classes in Theology, the Classics, Mathematics, English Literature, and History, under the superintendence of the Principal, and Professors the Rev. T. O. Hall, R. W. Browne, and T. Dale, will be reopened on Tuesday, the 31st of October next. The Classes for Private Instruction in Hebrew, the Oriental, and other Foreign Languages, will also be resumed. Medical School.—The Winter Session will commence on Monday, the 1st of October, when Professor Todd will deliver the Introductory Lecture, at Two O'clock x.m., precisely. Junior Department.—The Michaelmas Classes will commence on Monday, 1st October. H. J. ROSE, B.D. Principal.

N.B. Chambers are provided for such Students in the Senior or Medical Department as are desirous of residing in the College.

KING'S COLLEGE, LONDON.

MEDICAL SCHOOL, 1838 and 9.—The Winter Session will commence on Monday, the 1st of October, 1838. Descriptive and Surgical Anatomy, Richard Partridge, F.R.S. Surgeon to Charing Cross Hospital. Physiology, General and Morbid Anatomy.—R. B. Todd, M.D. F.R.S. Chemistry.—J. F. Daniell, F.R.S. Materia Medica and Therapeutics.—J. V. Boyle, M.D. F.R.S. Principles, Principles and Practice.—Thomas Watson, M.D. Physician to the Middlesex Hospital. Surgery, Principles and Practice.—J. M. Arnott, Surgeon to the Middlesex Hospital. Midwifery and the Diseases of Women and Children.—Robert Ferguson, M.D. Physician to the Westminster Lying-in Hospital. Comparative Anatomy.—T. Rymer Jones, Esq. Prospectuses may be obtained at the Secretary's Office. August 1838. HUGH J. ROSE, B.D. Principal.

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DR. COPLAND, F.R.S., &c., will commence his Lectures on the Principles and Practice of Medicine, and on Morbid Anatomy, at the Middlesex Hospital, School of Medicine, on Thursday, the 4th of October, at three o'clock.

For particulars apply at the Hospital, or School, or at 1, Bulstrode Street, Welbeck Street, Cavendish Square.

FAMILIES AND LITERARY CIRCLES

Persons desirous of Perusing the New Publications, are informed that the Circulation of New Books for Perusal on the Plan of the French and German Book Companies, adopted at Saunders and Sons' extensive Library, Conduit Street, Hanover Square, ensures a regular supply in the most distant provinces. Subscribers are assisted in the choice of new Works by the publication of select Monthly Lists (English and Foreign). Book Societies and Literary Institutions throughout Great Britain are placed on a similar plan, rendering the purchase of books unnecessary.

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Her majesty honoured Mr. Hayter, on Saturday, by sitting to him in the coronation robes, and Her Majesty's Grace, the Princess of Hohenlohe also sat to him for the great picture of her majesty's coronation.—*Court Circular*, August 6.

The plate will be engraved upon a large scale, in the finest style of Mezzotint, by a most eminent Engraver, and the impressions will be strictly delivered in the order of subscription.

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LITERATURE.—MESSRS. SAUNDERS

and OTLEY (Publishers) have just issued a most useful abridgement of the Catalogues of their extensive Subscription Library, and of their subscribers; the constant influx of new publications, and the increased number of Proprietors very considerably to extend their arrangements for the supply of all New Works for general sale throughout the country, and the system of furnishing families in the same neighbourhood on a united subscription, must tend materially to increase the demand for Modern Literature.

BOOKS IN THE PRESS.

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10. List of New Books.

11. General Index to Vol. XXII.

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